Church Life

Chicago, Ill., December, 1909.

THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Now comes the holiday season. The busy streets, the crowded streets, the hurrying throngs, the tumult and eagerness of the excited army of shoppers, all testify to the fact. Another Christmastide is here. May it be full of happiness for all!

* * *

The real lesson of this joyous festival needs to be learned by many of us still. Let us remember those who have no helper—the hungry, the cold, the sick, the lonely, the disheartened. For the sake of the Christ-child let us breathe a petition to the throne, and stretch forth a hand of sympathy.

* * *

Above all, let us go with the great loving Christ into the New Year. Christ in the heart. Christ in the home. Christ in our friendships. Christ in the church. Christ in the daily life. Christ waits to walk with us into the hope and brightness of the dawn. He will guide us through the changing scenes, as day follows day and the months come and go. The secret of a happy year is to have His presence with us.

* * *

Nineteen hundred and nine has been a good and gracious year for our church. Quickly, steadily, the work has gone forward. Every month has seen additions to our number. I thank God for the labors of so many devoted co-workers. If all the vigorous activities of all the various departments could be massed together we would realize vividly the amount accomplished.

* * *

The beautiful spirit which animates our church is the Christmas spirit, the Christ spirit. The presence amongst us of that peace which is the sunlight of love, and that harmony which is a foretaste of Paradise, remind us of the angelic prophecy of "peace and good-will."

* * *

Nineteen hundred and ten will be, with God's blessing, the best year we have ever had. May it bring to each of you showers of blessing. May you, in the toil and stress of your busy lives, take time for the best things. May you find wholesome joy in the common round of daily duty. May your souls be radiant with the light which shines from the Cross.

Your affectionate pastor,

AUSTIN K. DE BLOIS.

DR. F. B. IVES.

After a brief but painful illness our lamented Brother, Dr. Franklin B. Ives, on November 1, 1909, at the ripe age of eighty-six years, passed to his reward.

Dr. Ives came to Chicago with his family in 1874 and united with the First Baptist Church, where he remained a most esteemed, consistent and useful member until about 1894 or 1895 at which time he removed to California for his health.

Dr. Ives served as an honored deacon for many years and his loving spirit and wise counsel endeared him to all who were associated with him in an official capacity.

He was a man of dignified, yet pleasing personality, who always had a smile and a kind word for all. He had strong convictions and the manliness to maintain them in a true Christian spirit. A constant and regular attendant at the weekly prayer meeting, his voice was often heard in song and prayer and in exhortation and his words were an inspiration to all who heard them. He was very liberal in his contributions to all objects and especially considerate for the poor. The writer has upon many occasions received generous sums to be distributed among those who though worthy were in need of help in times of trouble.

During the years in which Dr. Ives made his home in California he took his membership to the Baptist Church at Long Beach, but in 1906 he again brought his church letter and cast his lot in with the First Baptist Church of Chicago, where he was a member at the time of his death.

In the departure of Dr. Ives the church has lost a man of the most sterling integrity and loyalty and one whom it will be hard to replace.

W. W.

COMMUNION ATTENDANCE.

December 5, 1909, in spite of the blizzard that was raging the following were present:

Members, 208. Visitors from Illinois, 29; from Pa., 6; from Kansas, 1; from N. Y., 6; from W. Virginia, 1; from S. Dak., 2; from Michigan, 3; from Mo., 2; from Iowa, 1; from Ind., 2; from Okla., 2; from Wash., 1; from Conn., 1; from Neb., 1; from Mass., 3; from Ohio, 1; from China, 1; from Mexico, 1; from England, 1; from Manitoba, 1. Total Visitors, 66; total, 274.

REPORT OF CHURCH VISITOR.

Report of church and Sunday-school visitor for month of October:

Calls made	188
Meetings attended	22
Teachers' meetings	4
Committee meetings	5

Ellen J. Simpson.

Report of church and Sunday-school visitor for month of November:

Calls made	178
Church	103
Sunday-school	75
Meetings attended	20
Teachers meeting	3
Committee meeting	3

Ellen J. Simpson.

DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

The following chairmen have been chosen by the pastor and the pastor's aids to serve during the coming year in the various districts:

Dist. 1—Mrs. Spinney.
Dist. 2—Mrs. Leland.
Dist. 3—Miss C. Stowell.
Dist. 4 and 5—Mrs. Lunley.
Dist. 6—Mrs. Dewey.
Dist. 7—Mrs. Meissner.
Dist. 8—Mrs. Bilton.
Dist. 9—Mrs. Holmes.
Dist. 10—Miss N. de Clercq.
Dist. 11—Miss Goodman.
Dist. 12 and 16—Mrs. Warner.
Dist. 13 and 14—Mrs. Gale.
Dist. 16 and 17—Mrs. Ahrens.
Dist. 18—Mrs. Fowler.
Dist. 19—Mrs. L. M. Smith.
Dist. 20—Mrs. W. Baird.
Dist. 21—Mrs. Spencer.
Dist. 22—Miss L. French.
Dist. 23—Mrs. J. A. Jackman.
Dist. 24—Mrs. C. T. G. Fish.
Dist. 25—Mrs. W. Morava.

WOMAN'S MISSION CIRCLE.

The Praise Service of the Woman's Mission Circle held on December 10, was largely attended in spite of the severe weather. The large class of students from the Training School doubled our usual members, and they lent inspiration, by their presence. The service opened with a very helpful Bible reading showing "How I learned to praise the Lord," given by Mrs. Googins. The program of the afternoon was given to three gifted women who each came a long distance to share in the service.

Mrs. B. A. Green, who told reasons for gratitude as seen by the Woman's Home Mission Society, and reviewed a year of advance in many lines.

Mrs. W. P. Behan told of new workers and new opportunities on the foreign field and of God's blessing during the year.

Mrs. Andrew MacLeish gave an account of the MeAll Missions of France that was listened to with deep interest.

Seven of our own members gave in prose and poems suggestions that inspired thankfulness, and the thank offering returns were announced as $73.90 from thirty-four boxes.

More than ninety dollars was reported from the birthday party and the thanks of the Circle was expressed to those who contributed to the pleasure and success of the birthday party.

NEW NAMES FOR THE CRADLE ROLL.

Robert Edwin Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Moore, born July 21, '09, 3331 Armour Ave.

Theodore Lewis Ketman, son of Rev. and Mrs. T. L. Ketman, born June, 1909, 580 Bryant Ave.

Charles Edwin Kahlke, son of Dr. and Mrs. C. E. Kahlke, born October 2, 1908, 3147 Calumet Avenue.

Howard Bradshaw Campbell, son of Mr. and

Mrs. E. H. Campbell, born August 9, 1909, 3010 Cottage Grove Ave.

Jennie C. Bilton, Supt. Cradle Roll.

THE LAMBS OF THE FOLD.

(The following beautiful lines were composed by Miss Alice Paxton, the daughter of our beloved Mrs. Martha Paxton, some twenty-five years ago. At that time Miss Paxton was the principal of the Kindergarten at Pacific Garden Mission. In view of the inauguration of a kindergarten in connection with our own church, and the interest in this work which many of our women are manifesting, these verses are peculiarly appropriate.—A. deB.)

Who shall depreciate children?
And turn a deaf ear to their cries?
The Lord hath revealed unto babies
What He hath hid from the wise.
Out of the mouths of the children,
The name of the Lord shall come,
And their voices sound forth His praises,
When older lips are dumb.

Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven,
Each child to the Master belongs.
And they brighten that Heavenly City,
With their childish praises and songs.
Yet even the chosen disciples,
Were displeased the children to see,
Till He said in accents tender,
"Let the little ones come unto Me."

"Whoso receives one of the children,
In my Name," saith the Lord, "receives Me."
And He looking down from His Kingdom,
Our care for them surely shall see.
And if we offend e'en the smallest,
Of those who place trust in Him,
When we all are called before Him,
We shall answer for our sin.

Unless we become humble as children,
And have faith in Him like unto theirs,
We cannot enter His Kingdom,
When we've done with earthly cares.
For whoever has faith the most child-like,
And reposes with trust in Him,
The same shall be greatest in Heaven,
Where is never the shadow of sin.

The children of the present
Have work in the future to do.
And although a mighty life work
May be only ordained for a few,
The Lord hath provided a corner,
For each of them to fill.
And each may help some strong brother,
Towards Zion's holy hill.

And where older hands grown weary,
Shall lay their burdens down,
And silently pass from among us
To receive their promised crown,
Out of the ranks of the children,
Shall their vacant places be filled,
And new voices shall be heard instead
Of those forever stilled.

Then, O, let the children be cherished,
And their feet be guided aright,
Along the paths of wisdom,
Towards the city which knows no night.
Come let us live for our children,
Let our care for them ever be shown.
And then when we enter the Kingdom,
We shall hear the Master's "Well done."

Alice Paxton.

AMORET HENSON GUILD.

In September the Amoret Henson Guild entered on its ninth year of work. The officers for the ensuing year were elected and various plans discussed, among others, a way to increase the membership and usefulness of the Guild and to secure the balance of the funds necessary to pay its pledge toward the church repair fund. Definite announcement as to the latter will soon be forthcoming.

The October meeting, at which there was a large attendance, was unusually pleasant owing to the fact that a number of the former members who are at present residing in other cities or other parts of our own city, were present and renewed old acquaintances. We were favored with a very interesting talk on Sweden by Miss Jean Leslie who made the scenes of which she spoke seem very real by the use of stereoptican pictures.

In accordance with the custom of the Guild, the program of the November meeting was in the hands of the Missionary Committee, who arranged with Miss Tedford to sing and with Miss MacLaurin to give an account of her recent trip to the various missionary stations. She took as her subject the girls and women of the Orient, and the graphic descriptions she gave of their lamentable condition aroused the interest and sympathy of all who listened to her, and caused everyone to realize the great importance of the work our missionaries are doing in foreign lands.

The interest manifested by the members of the Guild is very encouraging, and it is felt that this will be one of the best years in its history. The officers are very anxious that all young ladies of the church and congregation shall attend the meetings and become members of the organization. Supper is served at 6:30 on the fourth Monday of each month and is followed by most excellent programs. It is an ideal opportunity for the young ladies to become acquainted and at the same time be greatly interested and instructed by the entertainment provided.

A NEW CHURCH ORGANIZATION.

On November 4, at the home of Mr. Robert C. Leland, the Korner Klass, a new church organization, was formed. The object of the new class as set forth in its constitution is: Bible study, Christian culture, social intercourse, friendly service, and aggressive efforts to bring young men into the Sunday School and church. Although it was organized with a charter membership list of but ten, several new members have already been secured, and the class looks forward to doubling its enrollment in a short time.

At the first meeting the following officers were elected for a term of six months:

President—Don Thompston.
Secretary—Elston Peters.
Treasurer—Richard Hiney.

Chairman of Entertainment Comimtttee—Leslie Lumley.
Chairman of Membership Committee—George Underwood, Jr.
Class Editor—George Underwood, Jr.

MEN'S LEAGUE.

"When the frost is on the pumpkin and the fodder's in the shock,
They's something kindo' hearty like about the atmusfere."

Just at this time between Fall's bracing atmosphere and Winter's biting winds we of the League and Ladies' Benevolent Society and our friends gathered 'round the festive board for the annual banquet.

This was on November 16, and we feel sure this date will be underlined and encircled on the calenders of the minds of all present for on this evening we were highly honored in having with us as our guests the Reverend Samuel Gibson, Associate Rector of Christ Reformed Episcopal Church, our state's attorney, Mr. John E. W. Wayman, Dr. William Carver Williams, of our choir, Mrs. Helen Dodson Robinson, and were to have had Mrs. Bowman C. Lingle.

There were about one hundred and sixty present and harmony and good fellowship reigned supreme.

Our much beloved pastor gave the invocation, after which we did justice with right hearty good will, to the excellent dinner prepared under the able direction and supervision of the Benevolent Society, who do all things well and deserve the greatest of credit.

After the dinner had been placed well under cover by those present we were pleased to listen to a few remarks from our new President, Mr. E. L. Kelley who told the banqueters of the new work the League is undertaking, of the League series of entertainments, (the net proceeds of which go to the church repair fund), and of other things planned. He thoroughly established himself in the hearts of everyone and gave us a rousing and enthusiastic talk which augurs well for his term of office.

Then Dr. de Blois took a hand in the proceedings at the request of Mr. Kelley, expressing appreciation of the work of the Men's League so far and prophesying great hopes for the future.

We were also very glad to hear from our president of last year, Mr. William E. Smith, who expressed in most kindly manner his loyalty to the League and hopes for its work. He has worked hard in the League's interests and deserves much credit.

Dr. Williams of our choir who is so much in demand as a soloist over our city, sang for us as soon as dinner was over and gave us two as fine solos as it has been our pleasure to hear and which were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone and we wished we could have heard him again but he was forced to decline on account of a previous engagement.

Mr. Gibson who is associated with Bishop Cheney of Christ Reformed Episcopal Church as his associate, and considered by him as a most valuable man, spoke to us upon the subject: "The Business of a Christian Church," giving us a fine idea of how a church should exert its influence, examples of how a church's influence had when exerted worked for good. How politics may be changed for the better was another phase of his address. He also spoke upon several other very interesting phases of his subject, making his address one which held the most rapt attentiveness of his audience, and the close of his address drew forth the most spontaneous and hearty applause thus showing how thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated his remarks were.

He is an energetic type of young man with a fine presence and has an honest straightforward manner of speaking which carries conviction and draws approval.

Here Mrs. Helen Dodson Robinson who has attended our church for a number of years sang for us. She is the granddaughter of that fine gentleman and deacon of our church, Captain McElroy. We were very glad she had consented to favor us for we always know that we will listen to a beautiful voice and one we always enjoy hearing.

Her solos which were splendid selections and well chosen were received with most hearty approval and applause and called for encores both times. Her's is a strong, sure and well controlled voice and is of such versatility as to be undaunted by even the most difficult music which she renders with surprising and pleasing skill. She will always be in demand and favor being an exceptionally good vocalist. We were also pleased to have Mr. Robinson with us and hope they will both be with us often.

Here we were pleased to be introduced to Mr. John E. W. Wayman our noble state's attorney, who is doing such valiant and yeoman service against the forces of evil and graft. He told us in his address of the duties of his office, his purpose to do the right thing always, how newspapers are apt to misquote at times, how a newspaper many influence grand jury investigating methods, relation of state's attorney to the grand jury, why a grand jury can't investigate without aid and direction of the state's attorney. how a criminal is created and that young men are criminals at start largely by accident, also saying if he served a second time he would have a special department in his office for cases of young men starting in crime so that injustice to them would be more certainly avoided.

He also spoke with regret that the bomb explosions have been unsolved as yet but predicted the incarceration of the guilty parties before long, and also expressed regret that gambling should exist when laws forbade it, which also he hoped would soon be stopped.

Like Mr. Gibson he drew forth great enthusiasm and spoke in approval of Mr. Gibson's address and it was with regret that we noted the close of the program.

A rising vote of approval was given Mr. Wayman's work as state's attorney, which showed nobody sitting, thus making it a unanimous vote.

We assure those who favored us and made our program so delightful and profitable as well as an intellectual treat that the Welcome on our door mat is especially emphasized for them and that also they will always find our latch string hanging outside and ready to their pull. We thank them most heartily and hope they'll come often.

We wish also to thank Mrs. Bowman Lingle

for her willingness to sing again for us and regret she was unable, owing to a sudden and severe throat cold. We remember with pleasure when she favored us before and wished she and Mr. Lingle might have been with us again.

In closing we thank also the Ladies' Benevolent Society and also the young ladies for the excellent dinner which was so delicious and hot and well served. We feel that no other church can show ladies so capable and successful in their work in the church and feel duly proud of them.

Also we would mention especially the Men's League, Bible Class meeting with the Sunday School at 9:30 A. M., every Sunday morning and taught by the incomparable Mr. Stouffer, who as a Bible teacher is second to none. They have interesting discussions and it behooves you, brother to be present and be profited as well as profit others in the class with your views which will be welcome. Every man is welcome and urged to come.

Then there are the series of entertainments being given by the Men's League. Tickets for balance of six entertainments (containing such things as the Trier Concert Company, Illinois Glee Club, Bishop Fallows), are $1.00. Single admission tickets are 25 cents for adults and fifteen cents for children.

Ten reasons why you should buy tickets and attend these entertainments:

1. Net proceeds go to Church Repair Fund.
2. Tickets for balance of course are only $1.50.
3. Bishop Fallows, Trier Concert Co., and Illinois Glee Club are alone worth $2.00 to hear.
4. Single admission tickets are only 25 cents and 15 cents.
5. As a church member and one of congregation it will do you good to come out and meet others in church and get acquainted.
6. Your purchase will help pay for the church repairs.
7. The church needs and ought to be repaired.
8. Bright walls and clean church rooms make it more inviting and the desire to come again is increased.
9. The influence of your presence wil influence others to come, especially if you are a deacon, trustee or church officer.
10. The more there are present the more money the Repair Fund will get and we need more. Come out.

Where can you get these tickets? See any member of League or see members of Social Committee:

Dr. Frank Gale, Chairman; Mr. ArthurSingly, Mr. Raymondd Wilkin, Mr. Ralph Ridley, Mr. W. H. Vallette; League President, Mr. E. L. Kelley, ex officio.

The next entertainment is on Tuesday, January 11, when we want a big attendance, as we do also for the balance of the series. On January 11, we will have the symphony trio, a musical organization of real merit, and including a reader. You will hear a fine program by coming. Ladies, children and men are equally included, in the attendance.

The League is under contract at a fixed figure for these entertainments and the support of all can not be too strongly urged.

Hoping to see you there with your friends, and assuring you you will not regret it, we expect to see you there.

Signed,

Frank W. Gale,
Dept. Editor.

RESOLUTIONS OF APPRECIATION.

Whereas, our dear brother, Rev. E. Lewis Kelley, has deemed it necessary to tender his resignation as Assistant Pastor in charge of Raymond Mission, which has been reluctantly accepted at a recent meeting of our church, and whereas Brother Kelley's relations with our church have always been of the pleasantest nature during the year or more he has labored on both fields; Therefore be it

Resolved, That we hereby cordially express our joy at his coming among us, our high appreciation of the service he has rendered in the various capacities in which he has been so helpful, and especially for his leadership in the work at Raymond Chapel where, as Pastor conducting the weekly preaching services and helper in the Sunday School, he has shown a deep interest and accomplished abiding results.

As our dear brother expects to remain with us as a member of the church and president of our "Men's League," we hereby assure him of our cordial love and support, and bespeak for him in his new volunteer work the success which his earnest endeavor deserves.

William Wigney,
Wm. B. Nichols,
Wm. R. Raymond.
Committee.

OUR FAMILY CIRCLE.

Mrs. Max Ford (formerly Miss Grace Stockwell), of 1410 West Harrison St., has been ill in the Presbyterian Hospital, but has now recovered. Mrs. Ford is one of the honored members of our church, but living so far away she finds it impossible to come very often to our services. She writes: "I pray God's richest blessing upon the First Church, which I so dearly love. I trust to be able to be at our first communion next year, God willing."

We had quite a delegation of our Chinese brethren present at the Communion service on December 5, amongst them Rev. James Fung, Mr. Ding Sied, Mr. John Yunbong Lee of the University of Chicago, Mr. Tom Fon, Mr. Moy Yee Quay, Mr. Bun Lum Moy and Mr. Lem Long. Mrs. Minnie Chan was also present.

It was a real delight to welcome the members of the Pickett family on a recent Sunday morning. Mrs. W. S. Pickett and Miss Blanche Pickett were present from Oak Park. Mr. Robert Pickett and his bride, who was formerly Miss Dorothy Eilenberger, came also from their home in Oak Park. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Perkins, (Miss Elizabeth Pickett), from Normal Park; Dr. and Mrs. Walter Tucker (Miss Helen Pickett), from London, England; and Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain, (Miss Marian Pickett), from Buffalo, N. Y., were all with us. It revived many happy memories to see these good friends of former days. They are all still members of our church,

though they are scattered far. Long life to them and every blessing attend them!

Rev. Mr. Clark of Indiana, father of our Mr. C. M. Clark, spent several weeks recently with his son and daughter. He worshipped with us during his stay in Chicago and assisted in several of our services.

Mrs. Clarke, the wife of Mr. Robert N. Clarke, the Treasurer of our church, underwent a serious operation at the Streater Hospital. Many prayers were offered for her recovery; and it is a great joy to welcome back amongst us one so well known and beloved by our membership.

Mr. E. A. Congdon, who has been with us for several months, has returned to Phoenix, Arizona, for the winter. We miss his messages in the prayer meetings.

Mrs. T. J. Holmes has entirely recovered from her recent severe attack of typhoid fever; and she and her husband are with us regularly in our services. They are amongst the noble band of "dependable" people who are always ready to bear burdens and do their share of the Master's work.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Humphrey was called away to Nebraska on a sad errand. Mrs. Humphrey's brother, a prominent physician, was summoned to the bedside of a sick patient late at night. Hurrying away in response to the call he met with a fatal accident, and early the next morning he was found crushed by his automobile in the outskirts of the town. He was a man of royal Christian character. We extend to Mrs. Humphrey our heartfelt sympathies.

Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Langworthy, who recently united with our church, are already proving themselves to be wide-awake and efficient members. Mrs. Langworthy has joined the Choral Club and Mr. Langworthy is active in the work of the Men's League. They are the kind of people whom it is good to meet.

It was inspiring, at a recent prayer meeting, to see Dr. and Mrs. Lumley, their sons, Leslie and Harold, and their daughters, Arlene and Dorothy, a family united in Christ and in the service of the church. There is no more beautiful sight in the world than that of a household thus sanctified by the spirit of the Lord.

Mr. A. A. McGaskill has been ill with erysipelas. He came to Chicago from Texas a few months ago and has been very active in church work since his arrival in our city. We hope he may soon be entirely recovered.

Our whole-hearted sympathies are extended to Miss Lulu Drake, in the loss of her father, and to Mrs. W. R. Raymond in the death of her brother. Mr. Drake passed away quite suddenly, after an operation for appendicitis at the Michael Reese Hospital. He was a man quiet and unostentatious but highly honored amongst those who knew him. Dr. de Blois conducted the funeral service and the burial was at Oakwoods.

Mrs. A. L. Barsley has been called upon to mourn the death of her son, which occurred two weeks ago. Our affectionate sympathy goes out to our dear friend in her sorrow. Mrs. Barsley and three of her daughters, Mrs. Holihan, Mrs. Wilson, and Miss Barsley, are faithful members of our church.

Mr. W. K. Wells has recently been quite ill and confined to the house; but is able now to attend again the services of the church. He was a member of the First Church for a long time, many years ago, but withdrew to unite with Immanuel. Recently he has brought his letter and united again with the First Church, and we hope that he may long be with us.

Miss Margaret Van Fleet, formerly our church and Sunday School visitor, after a year of study at a training school in New York, has been acting as Secretary of the Y. W. C. A. at Knoxville, Tenn. She has just resigned that position, and does not as yet know where her future work will be. She writes: "I assure you I have thought of the old church many, many times, and wanted to know many times how everything progressed, but as I have been fully as busy as I was while with you I have not succeeded in finding time to write." She sends "best wishes to all the good people of the First Church."

Miss Hazel Morrison, who united with our church six years ago, but has been residing in Lowell, Mass., for some time past, has returned to Chicago, and has come back to her former church home. She was one of the most faithful of our younger members.

Rev. Joseph Clark and Mrs. Clark, of Ikoko, Congo, Africa, have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Lingle. Mr. Clark's illustrated lecture at our last monthly missionary meeting, made a strong impression. The members of the First Church hope that Mr. Clark may be chosen as one of the deputation which is to visit the Sudan next spring, to consider the advisability of establishing a Baptist Mission in that vast and unevangelized region.

Mrs Minnie Chan, formerly Miss Minnie Don Sang, after a residence of a year or so in Alexandria, Va., has come back to our city, and we are glad to welcome her again.

Mrs. J. B. Pollard, of Groveland Ave., whose husband died some two years ago, has been called to pass again through the waters of affliction. We sorrow with her in the loss of her daughter. She was her mother's chief stay and comfort in her loneliness, and had been constant in her devotion and care. She died at the Chicago Woman's Hospital. Dr. de Blois conducted the funeral services.

Deacon E. D. Neal, who was ill for some weeks at the Hinsdale Sanitarium, came back to Chicago two weeks ago, and has been in the Baptist Hospital since. He is gradually recovering, and hopes to be able to return to his home next week. The love of the church for Deacon Neal was expressed in the hearty resolutions of sympathy, adopted at the November Communion

service, and in the appointment of a committee of three to visit Hinsdale and convey the affectionate regards of the membership.

Mr. C. R. Stouffer, after several days of severe and critical illness, underwent a successful operation for apendicitis at the Mercy Hospital. His hosts of friends and admirers rejoice to know that he is now rapidly progressing toward complete recovery.

The President of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Charles H. Marshall, has been sick at home and in bed, with an attack of sciatica. This is only his second illness in forty years. We are glad to know that he is getting stronger each day, and we hope very soon to see his genial face among us again. His counsels are always courageous and helpful.

A QUIET WEDDING.

On the evening of Thursday, the 9th of December, Mr. W. Harry Vallette and Miss Mabel Ethelyn Moors were married at the home of Dr. de Blois. The wedding was quiet, and the many friends of the bride and groom were quite taken by surprise when they learned of the happy event. Mr. and Mrs. Vallette are widely known in our membership, and we all join in hearty congratulations and best wishes. They will make their home in Hyde Park, but will still be with us in church life and work, we are glad to know.

IN MEMORIAM.

William H. Webster.

The death of our dear friend, Mr. Will Webster, early in November, brought sorrow to the hearts of many. He was quiet and unostentatious, never thrusting himself forward, so that he was not known to all of our members. Those of us who had the privilege of acquaintanceship and close fellowship with him loved him for his nobility of soul and integrity of life.

He was a young man clean and true in his habits, sincere and loyal in his friendships, anxious ever to do what was right, generous and kindly to all. Within the last two years he had been away from the city the greater part of the time. Previous to that he was with us constantly in our Sunday services and at our prayer meetings. He attended regularly the Men's League Bible Class. He engaged in many helpful ministries in his own modest way.

One instance out of many may be cited, to show his interest in the welfare of others. A German workman was very anxious to bring his family to Chicago, from the land across the sea, but his means were insufficient to provide for their passage. Our friend, learning the facts in the case, at once offered to supply the necessary funds, and the family was brought to Chicago. Hearing of the death of his benefactor he came to tell Mr. and Mrs. Webster of their son's great kindness to him, and to express his sympathy with them in their bereavement.

For years our brother had suffered much at times from depression of spirits. Those who have had this experience know how much worse than any physical pain is this mental anguish. He fought bravely against these tendencies, and sought and struggled to rise above them. How many of the noblest souls are tortured in this way!

We extend our earnest sympathy to the father and mother, in their great sorrow, and to the sister and brother, who are members of our church, in the loss of their beloved brother.

WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

Held their first meeting for December on Friday, the 3d, for the annual meeting with less than sixty members present.

The reports for the year were read and we were very glad our Pastor and Mrs. De Blois, were with us to hear of the really large amount of work of a charitable and benevolent character we had accomplished, besides numerous affairs planned to raise funds. We feel we can thankfully say, nineteen hundred and nine has been a busy—yes a rather strenuous year but withal a good year with great results.

Right here we must say 'tis largely owing to our energetic president that so great, so good, and so many, schemes have been placed before the society to work out, and make the best of; each member has felt the highway of holiness is along the commonest road of life—along your very way.

In wind and rain, no matter how hard it beats, it is only "going hand in hand with Him," thus going steadfastly on, working together without friction we have come to the close of the year. We are sincerely glad to have almost the same staff of officers for the ensuing year.

For the benefit of our shut in sisters and those who have not been coming out to the society but whom we feel are interested in us and our work and church, the following part of the report will be given:

Some of the charities we work for and help: Raymond Mission, Industrial School, Bureau of Carities, (sewing children's garments), "Larabida" Infants' Sanitarium, Gym. suits for our Training School, Missionary and family on the Home Field, Baptist Old People's Home, Baptist Orphanage, Chicago Refuge for Girls, in which Mrs. Wiggan is so deeply interested, The Young Women's Christian Association in which Madame Spry and Mrs. Eliza Harvey are actively interested, also Mrs. Hine. We have extended a helping hand to the Midnight Mission, also.

Officers for 1910.

President—Mrs. Clifford Williams.
First Vice President—Mrs. C. H. Marshall.
Second Vice President—Mrs. Eliza Harvey.
Recording Secretary—Mrs. W. Morava.
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. C. R. Stouffer.
Treasurer—Miss E. Goodman.
Editor—Mrs. J. A. Jackman.

Executive Committee.

Mrs. Hinckley, Downs, Lumley and Officers of Society.

Purchasing and Cutting Committee.

Chairman—Mrs. Wm. E. Smith. Mrs. A. Jones, Havens, Hall, Hinckley, Clarke, Rodgers, McCrohan, Thomas, and Dixon.

Distribution of Work.

Mrs. A. E. Hall and Mrs. A. Jones.

Distribution of Garments.

Miss Simpson and Mrs. Wigney.

Luncheon Managers.

Mrs. Miller and Humphrey, Mrs. Coombs, Framer, Miss Simpson, Eldred and Davis.

Pianist—Mrs. D. J. McChohan.

Quilt Committee.

Mrs. King, Chairman. Mrs. McElroy, Coombs, Barnes, Paxton, Mrs. Green, Newton, Johnson, Wigney, Fralick, Gaylord, Summers, Moreland, and Watson. This committee has done splendidly during 1909.

Lookout Committee.

Chairman, Mrs. Harvey. Mrs. Thomas, Lumley, Jones, McLauren and McFadden.

As we are about to enter a new year we urge all our women of the church and congregation to bring their thinmbles and scissors on the first and third Friday each month and join us.

Our younger sisters will be warmly welcomed as they can be a great help to us and we hope a pleasure and profit to themselves.

Mrs. J. A. J.

Nay, bury not the past—it is not dead.
Its suns are set, its days and years are gone,
But still it liveth, full of deathless breath,
Its fields are not yet reaped, its harvests not yet done.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.

We have come up to the last month of the year 1909, and in taking an inventory of the work of the past few months, we ask, "What have been the results of the efforts put forth by the members of our Christian Endeavor Society during the year drawing to a close?" "By their fruits ye shall know them." Let us make a little review of the work.

We started out auspiciously at the beginning of the year, with a live, active president at the head of the Society. For three months the Society thrived under Miss Bucklin's leadership. At the end of this time Miss Bucklin felt called upon to resign her office, on account of her removal to Normal Park. It was with great regret that we let her go. The change was felt in the Society—as all important changes are felt in any organization—and we came up to the summer with very little accomplished and with very little interest or enthusiasm manifest in the meetings. The vacation time is always a trying and discouraging period in religious work. The Christian Endeavor Society was asked to help in the open-air meetings, and this necessitated the breaking up of our own regular services on Sunday evenings.

The regular work of the Society was resumed the first of September. On October first the wonderful "Gipsy Smith Mission" began in the Seventh Regiment Armory. Many of our members attended these meetings constantly, and what our Society gained through this Mission cannot be told in words. The attendance on Sunday evenings has increased, the membership is growing steadily and a new interest and zeal is evidenced on the part of the young people.

Our hearts are filled with thanksgiving to God for this change, and we must work and pray, that this new spirit may continue.

Financially, we have done well. This is largely due to the untiring efforts of our treasurer, Miss Hattie Todd. We have raised our money for current expenses by monthly pledges. These have been well paid up, and all bills have been settled, including our per capita tax. Special pledges were taken early in the year—amounting to ten dollars—toward World Wide Christian Endeavor work. These pledges have all been paid and the money sent to the treasurer of the city union. The Society participated in the Temperance Parade, and paid five dollars for the privilege of doing so.

An appropriation of $3.00 has been made toward the Cook County Hospital work, and $1.50 was taken from our Missionary Fund to buy refreshments for a party for a class of boys at the Bohemian Mission. Our missionary money has been raised by each member pledging two cents per week for this purpose.

The Society has undertaken to raise $300 on the Church Decorating Fund. This means "a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether." Personal pledges were made to the amount of $125.00. All of these have not yet been paid. Each member of the Society is endeavoring to earn $1.00, the money secured in this way to be applied on our $300 pledge. The Curtis Publishing Company has made a proposition, whereby the Society receives a commission of 35 cents on each $1.50 subscription secured for the Ladies' Home Journal and the Saturday Evening Post. This applies to renewals as well as to new subscriptions. We solicit the co-operation of all our friends in this matter. The proceeds from this source will be applied on our $300 pledge. We have already secured a number of subscriptions. Securing this large sum is uphill work, but it is our purpose to pay every cent of the pledge "if it takes all summer."

Much credit is due the prayer-meeting committee for the excellent leaders they have secured during the year, and for the splendid meetings which have been held. The same can be truly said of the Missionary Committee. We have had some fine speakers, who have talked to us on live, missionary subjects. Special music has been furnished for many of our meetings, which has added greatly to the interest. The Social Committee has done good work: we have had a number of socials during the year, the "Progressive Social," in the spring, being a particularly successful one. At our Thanksgiving Rally a good supply of provisions was donated and about $4.50 in money.

We have been glad indeed to have some of the older people take an interest in our Society and meetings. We wish that more of them would do so. We are glad to have our pastor with us, even for a little while, on Sunday evenings.

We do feel greatly encouraged over the condition of things in our Society. We know that all we have been able to accomplish has been through Christ and that we can do all things through Him, which strengtheneth us.

Gertrude S. de Clercq,
President.

C. E. Personals.

The following new members have been received into the Society during the past few weeks:—Miss Ellen Simpson, Miss Helen Koller, Miss Ada Holman, Miss Austin, Miss Ella Day, Miss Grace Bourne and Miss Landon. We have applications from several others who have not yet been voted in.

Have you renewed your subscription to the Ladies' Home Journal and the Saturday Evening Post? If not, will you not subscribe through the Christian Endeavor Society, handing your subscriptions to Miss Hattie Todd?

We are planning to give an entertainment some Friday evening in March at the Cook County Hospital. Messrs. Hartung and Wolters will give some of their humorous sketches.

Why not subscribe to the Ladies' Home Journal or the Saturday Evening Post as a Christmas present for a member of your family or for a friend? Subscriptions for these magazines are gratefully received by Miss Hattie Todd, Treasurer.

We are very glad to have our pastor, Deacon and Mrs. Wigney and Dr. and Mrs. Spinney with us so regularly in our Sunday evening meetings. Their presence is a help to us.

Miss Schuyler, Editorial Secretary of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, gave us a very interesting talk, Sunday evening, December 5, on "slum" work, her remarks being based on personal observation in Philadelphia.

If you want to supply yourself with Christmas candy, "daily bread," etc., you can do so through members of our Christian Endeavor Society, and in this way help the Society to earn money toward its pledge on the church decorations! Miss Medora Googins and Miss Hattie Todd are securing orders for home made candy and Miss Nan de Clercq for home-made bread.

JESUS: MIND READER AND FAITH HEALER.

(Stenographic notes of a sermon preached by the Pastor, Rev. Austen K. de Blois, in the First Baptist Church, Chicago.)

The gospel according to St. John, second chapter and 26th verse: "He knew what was in man." Link with this the words that you will find in the fifth chapter according to St. Luke and 24th verse: "I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house."

"He knew what was in man." "I say unto thee, Arise!" These words indicate to us the Divine power of Jesus Christ as a mind-reader and as a faith-healer. These words wind themselves about some of the most pleasant and pleasurable associations. Yet we have come today to use these very noble phrases in a very ignoble manner. The fault perhaps is not with us; the words have been appropriated by all those who have claimed peculiar merit as discerners of the minds of others, or as healers of the ills of others. When we use that phrase "mind-reader" we think of telepathy, we think of phrenologists and spiritualists, and those lecturers and entertainers who have sought a livelihood by exploiting certain magnetic, mesmeric powers which they possess. When we use the phrase "faith-healer" we think of Schlatter, Schroeder, Dowie and men of that type. It is not my purpose to court a cheap sensationalism this morning by ranting against the late Mr. Dowie. Too many ministers have already lowered the dignity of their pulpits by such frenzied attacks.

We think also when we use the word faith-healer of another class of people. They are professed Christian people, but as a rule they are acrimonious and censorious. Although they are within the borders of the church where they should call others Christians, they are prone to encourage the idea that they alone are true Christians, that they alone know and interpret fully the mind of Jesus Christ. They affect a sort of superior type of holiness upon which they have a peculiar patent. These faith-curists, these believers in divine healing, within the ranks of the regular Christian churches are difficult people to live with. So that both of these words have come to attach themselves to ideas which are quite apart from the glorious thought contained in each case in the phrase itself. We may with the utmost reverence speak of the Lord Jesus Christ our Master as one who was a mind reader, and a faith-healer.

Christ Knows Us.

Jesus Christ moved amongst men with the instincts, with the intuitions and with the profound knowledge of a God. He was a man in every sense, truly anxious, eager to give His life in all kindly offices, that others might be helped; and beyond that to give Himself at last upon the Cross of Calvary in order that men might become heirs to eternal life with God. In order that this large mission might be performed it was necessary that He should probe deeply and carefully into the minds and lives of those who surrounded Him in His daily ministries.

Jesus Christ knew the secret springs of men's lives. The crowd gathered about Him; He was not misled. He knew that these men who are so earnest in proclaiming Him their Lord, would fall away from Him in time of danger or temptation or trial. He looked beyond the crowd and He understood that his duty was to follow the way of the cross. It was a rough path. There would be storms and tempests. There was no ease, no luxury for Him; it was a weary way in which He walked. He knew that the multitude of people who gathered about Him were after the loaves and fishes only, and that when these were exhausted, and when He came face to face with his judge, with the priests, and with death, these people would fall away from Him even as the mists dissolve before the summer's sun. He understood, and yet He went on His way, without hesitation, without halting, without a moment's parley, without ambition or desire for any of those purely human attributes which move most men to reverence.

How surprised Nathaniel must have been the first time he met Jesus Christ, when in that first

interview as he looked upon Him, and as he listened to His words, by a single sentence He uncovered the very secret of his heart: "When thou wast under the fig tree I saw thee." That was the extreme crisis in the life of the man, Nathaniel. He had always guarded it, cherished it, kept it from the sight and knowledge of others. Under the spreading leaves of the tree he had communed with the deep things and with the high things; he had consecrated himself to the service of the living God. That was the most momentous, the most sacred occasion of his life and yet Jesus by a single word shows him that all is open to His view. And immediately there is a link deeper than life itself, which binds the heart of Jesus Christ to the heart of this young stranger, concerning whose inner life He knows all. "When thou wast under the fig tree I saw thee."

It is the Samaritan woman. She comes hurrying into town, with a new strange power over her whole life. She has spoken with the Master. She goes to her neighbors here and there. "Why, this strange prophet has told me all things whatsoever I have done. He has spoken words that have redeemed me." And because of her testimony many people believe in Jesus Christ.

And there was that rich young man of whom we have heard so often who came to Jesus Christ. I doubt not the apostles were greatly excited over his coming. That man would be a hopeful candidate for apostleship. "Here is a rich young man, what can he not do for us or with us? How may the claims of our Master now be advanced, rapidly, worthily? What a great thing it is!" Judas looked askance at him: "He is a man I can borrow money from when I am in need; he is a good man to have with us." So they talk amongst themselves, but Jesus Christ, though understanding the noble soul, the strong and earnest purpose, the pure life, all of this, sees beyond it and beneath it that element of covetousness, of stinginess, that element of grasping selfishness which will warp and dwarf and destroy the whole life unless it is overcome: "One thing thou lackest."

And then Judas himself as he slinks out of the door of the upper chamber, going forth to sell his Lord, hears those awful words spoken in such gentle sorrowing accents, just as he is about to go forth to do his unholy deed: "What thou doest, do quickly." As before while sitting at the table with his Lord, the Master reclining there had said: "He that eateth with me, he that dippeth in the plate with me, he is the traitor."

Christ Helps and Heals.

Christ knew what was in man. As a mariner knows his compass; as the mechanic his tools; the surgeon his instruments; the traveling man his samples; the painter his colors; so Jesus Christ knew men. Humanity was his specialty. He knew men in order that He might save them. Christ is not dead, and today He understands, and in our gathering together He knows each soul amongst us. He understands us through and through, the weakness, the sins and sorrows, the strong and high purposes, the trials, the peculiar temptations, the hidden sins. Jesus Christ knows it all, but Jesus Christ not only knows it all, but wants to help us out of all that is evil, into all that is good. That's the glory of it, for He is not only a mind-reader but also a faith-healer.

In the words of the lesson which we read this morning there was a double miracle. First, "Thy sins are forgiven thee." At once the people began talking among themselves and complaining to each other saying, "Who is this man? What does it mean? Sins forgiven! Who can forgive sins but God?" Then speaks the Master: "Do your childish minds demand proof? Is it easier to say, 'Thy sins be forgiven thee' or to say, 'Arise and walk?'" Then He says to the sick of the palsy, "Arise, take up thy couch, and go into thine house." First the pardon of sin, then as a very, very secondary and subordinate thing, the healing of the body.

"Thy sins be forgiven thee." Oh my brother, what an inspiration to life, to the weak, poor, halting, trembling life that we live. What inspiration, what strength to us that there stands at the helm of our life, that there stands beside us One who has all the power of the Omnipotent God, that all that power is enlisted in our service, and that Jesus Christ is willing to stoop to the very lowest level in order that He may raise us up and pardon our sins, and make us kings and priests to God our Father in Heaven. Christ knew what was in man. He knew the sin and He came that He might cleanse the evil, that He might put purity in place of pollution. He knew the weaknesses and He came to heal them. He knew the jealousies and He came to purge men of them. He knew the hypocrisies, and He came to thunder against them, and to deliver men from their power.

Christ Saves Us from Inconstancy.

He knew the fickleness of men. Timon of Athens was somewhat of a mind-reader; he had been able to "size up," as we say, his friends and his companions. He found that they followed him when the weather was fair and the sun was shining, but he found that they were ready to fall away from him whenever there came a trial, whenever he himself was bound by poverty or distress. So you will remember how he shunned their society, how he bade them farewell and went off by himself, away from the world, became a misanthrope, a cynic, disgusted with the treatment of his friends and his comrades. They were all as fickle as reeds, broken by the wind, so he took refuge in pessimism. Now, Jesus Christ knew far more than Timon of Athens, of what was in man, in the way of changeableness, frivolity, fickleness, shallowness and surface-living. He knew it well, but not for one moment did he take his hand from the plow or look back. Jesus Christ, knowing the fickleness of men went with them, bore their burdens, tried to turn them to God, and died at last for their sins. Why? Because He was able to look beyond their impulses and trivialities down into the center of their being.

How many leaders have found the multitude eager to follow them, how many men have been carried away by the feeling of a moment's passion, by the following of cheering multitudes for a day or for a year, and at last have been broken upon the wheel, because they have not

been able to foresee the alienation of the crowd. They have not been able to look beyond that cheering, hurrahing multitude, or over the heads of the crowd. They could not see the larger issues. Down into the hearts of those men they could not look. They have not had the wisdom to look beyond, they have not had the insight. But Jesus Christ had the wisdom, Jesus Christ had the penetration. He understood that these people were simply cheering for a worldly Messiah; they wanted one to establish the Jewish kingdom, and make them men of influence in that kingdom. He knew well that the spiritual desire for the salvation of the world was never present in their poor, idle, flippant hearts, but He went on His way to save them. He knew how changeable were all their thoughts and hopes and interests. He was not misled. He did not yield to their desires. But He did the Father's will, because He saw beyond the lesser issues and the smaller things. He understood God's purpose for the world.

Are we not as fickle, are we not following these shallow things, these things that perish with the use? You may remember the cry that is uttered by Marie Bashkirtseff, that strange and brilliant girl, which she records in her diary: "This is the new year. Last night, last night at the theatre, exactly at midnight, with my watch in my hand, I wished my wish in one word, intoxicating whether written or spoken—fame!" And she won it. But oh, how dreary and sad was the early end. How quickly she hastened to the silent tomb.

If the Lord Jesus Christ could come here this morning and look into our faces, He could read, He could understand, and by a single word could characterize each life. He could see the little things which our inconstant souls are longing for, striving and struggling after. I wonder what that word would be for you! Pleasure! Social prestige! Wealth! Influence! Ah, there might be other words more terrible to hear, Selfishness, Lust, Revenge. He knows it all. The wonder is, He still pities us and loves us. Jesus Christ though knowing how shallow our lives are as were those of the multitudes of old, is still willing to go on with His great work of healing, of salvation for you and for me. May we not see God today? May we not receive in full measure the light and life of Jesus Christ into our hearts? May we not bow before the wonderful God? May we not yield our souls to Him, and say, "Thy will, oh Master, and not mine, be done?"

Last night, perhaps, you realized after you had gone to bed, that you had forgotten to lock the front door. It was dark but you thought you knew the way exactly. You started out and began to tumble over chairs and knock against tables and wake up the whole house. You found your way blunderingly and awkwardly. You did not know there was so much furniture in the house. Out of the room and into the hall and down the stairs and through the reception room, until finally you reached the door and locked it and returned. Today with the sun shining through the windows you walk out of your bedroom and along the hall and down the stairs, and as you look about the house you laugh at yourself of last night. There was darkness; now there is light. That is the secret of the whole matter.

We think we can guide our own lives; we are so strong; we are so brave; and we know so much. So we blunder along and we make mistakes here, we are awkward there, and we find ourselves running up against moral problems that we cannot solve. We blunder through life; we think we know the way; but we are not willing to open our hearts to Him, Who is not only the mind-reader but the great faith-healer; who knows our sins and can heal them; Who can show us the way of life for He has walked in it. We need the light of the Son of Righteousness shining down into our dark hearts and giving us the power to live the perfect life in Jesus Christ.

Christ Saves Us from Insincerity.

Then He knows not only this fickleness, this changeableness, this surface living of ours; but He knows all its insincerities as well. Jesus Christ hurls his anathemas against the hypocrite as against no other man. The man whose lips say one thing and his heart another thing is abominable in the sight of God. Against the church member who has confiscated one hundred thousand dollars and escaped, and against the minister who has gone wrong, everyone is indignant, and the newspapers are filled with the account of it all. You use the word hypocrite, and you do right. But how about the man who also professes the name of Jesus Christ but whose life is devoted, his time and his energies and all his thoughts, to entirely, distinctly, and essentially worldly interests? I think the Lord would use exactly that same word: "Thou whited sepulcher!"

We heard much some years ago about the battle of the standards. In the Christian life the battle of the standards is not between gold and silver, but between gold and dross, and the Lord Jesus Christ condemns most bitterly the man who speaks words of gold but whose heart is of iron, of brass, of dross, of dust. Oh God, give us sincerity, a clean heart, an open mind! How we admire in nature—there is nothing we admire more—how we admire the mountain pool as we gaze down into its clear depths and see the pebbles and the sand far, far beneath, and trace the reflection, the perfect reflection—so that we can hardly tell where the pool begins and where it leaves off—the perfect reflection of the grass and the flowers, and the trees and the sky and the clouds and the sun, the perfect reflection of all that is above. Even so the heart that is joined to Christ, the heart into which Christ is shining, reflects His glory and His beauty.

Perhaps on your last visit to England you went into a jewelry store to buy a ring or a breast-pin that you admired in the window, to take it home as a souvenir or as a present to a friend. You went in and examined it and asked the price. The salesman said that it was 7s. 6d. 7s. 6d.! "Why, how can you sell it for 7s. 6d.?" And he laughed and said: "Well, you know the stone is not geniune. If it were genuine it would cost five pounds." Oh my brother, in the Church of Jesus Christ there are too many of us I fear who may glitter and shine and look to be perfectly sincere, entirely devoted, but the trouble

is—well, what is the trouble? We are not genuine! If we were, how much we would be worth to God in His service, in His worship, in His work. May the Almighty God make us genuine! May He deliver us through Jesus Christ from fickleness and from weakness and from insincerity. May the Holy One, the Son of God, today heal all our sins, create in us a clean heart, and renew for all future days a right spirit within each of us! Amen.

THE EMPTY COT.

I. M. P. OcKender.

Two peasants dwelt alone. Alas,
No child had they,
For he had died! But once there came
A lad that way,
And asked if he might spend the night.
They spread for him
The empty cot that long had stood
In shadows dim.

'Twas Christmas-tide—and ere he went,
He asked the man,
"What can I do for thee?" He said,
"'Tis little that you can."
"And thou," he asked of her, "who took
A stranger lad
Into your home and broke your bread,
To make me glad?"

"I was aweary, and you made
The little bed,
Where one before I came had slept—"
With lifted head,
She looked at him in quick surprise,
And whispered low,
"Oh, stay with me, sweet child divine!
Thy face I know."

"My mother!" softly answered he,
"Again we part;
But keep the little bed for me,
Within your heart."
* * *
When Christmas comes with holly boughs,
And mistletoe,
And cedars sweet, the earth is glad
Beneath the snow;
When mother's hang the stockings round
With love intent,
A tear oft falls upon the hearth
For those who went!

For love dies not. The stranger lad
With eyes so mild,
Is heaven-sent to comfort us,
The Christmas Child.

—Youth's Companion.

Church Life

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CONTRIBUTORS.

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If we had more paid subscribers to Church Life we could afford to include a number of cuts in each monthly number—which we greatly desire to do. Don't you want to have it sent by mail each month? Fifty cents. Send your name on a postal or drop a request in the contribution basket at any service.

Subscription price, fifty cents a year. Remittances and changes in address should be sent to Dr. de Blois, to whom also matter for publication should be sent on the first day of each month.

Pews or sittings in the church may be obtained from the pew committee, Messrs. R. B. Twiss, Webster Tomlinson and E. L. Roy at the close of any church service. Diagram will be found near the door.

It is the plan of the Editor to give a receipt to every subscriber to Church Life for payments made, and if such payments are not thus acknowledged within a reasonable time subscribers will confer a favor by notifying the Editor of the fact. Money sometimes gets lost in the mails or otherwise and a little prompt attention at the time will obviate differences of opinion at a later date. Kindly notice also the date to which you are credited on the receipt and have it corrected if wrong.

CHICAGO BAPTIST NEWS.

Normal Park.—Rev. F. L. Anderson, former pastor, preached on the evening of Nov. 7, and held the communion service and baptized some candidates, and again on the morning of Nov. 28, gave "A Special Message to the Church„ in anticipation of the coming of his successor as pastor on December 1. He also led the church in raising about $500 to cover a deficit and the moving expenses of the new pastor from Harrisburg, Pa., to Chicago. The attendance during the two months interim between the pastorates has been well sustained, and the church has never been in a position to do more aggressive work. Rev. A. F. Anderson is not a relation of the former pastor, but has the same good spiritual blood in his veins and the church looks forward to another delightful pastorate.

Trinity.—Pastor Bancroft has been preaching on the following subjects during October, morning and evening:

Bread from Heaven, On the Borderland. The Smitten Rock, The Wasted Life, The Law, The Testing of Abraham, A Mess of Pottage, The Tabernacle.

Five local churches joined in an evangelistic campaign, holding the services a week in each building.

Pilgrim Temple.—Pastor Dent has already baptized nearly a dozen converts and a number of others have confessed Christ. He is rejoicing with his church over these tokens of success in the Lord.

Western Ave.—The December issue of the Record will be given up to a memorial number for their late pastor Rev. Henry Proctor. Rev. R. E. Manning, a member of the church, pays him the following beautiful tribute:

He was a student, as his sermons indicated. He loved his books, and had gathered quite a large, and well selected working library. He enjoyed study from a literary standpoint, but this was a secondary consideration. His primary object was to gain spiritual power in order that he might impart the same to his hearers. He was a speaker of no mean ability, and had a class of young men in training, but the object was to fit them for better service in Christian work. He always appeared to be an optimist. If he ever had pessimistic thoughts, he succeeded in hiding them in his intercourse with his people. He always seemed able to find a bright side for presentation. No doubt there were times when matters were not as he would wish, but he could find something to commend. His presence always insured good cheer. He was sympathetic. He was a comforter to those who were in trouble as they had good evidence that he sorrowed with them. His ministry was not confined to the members of his church, as many have testified, both before and since his departure from us. His cheerfulness and sympathy gained many friends, and enabled him to retain them when gained, and that gain was more rapid as the people came to be better acquainted with him. I do not believe it to be an exaggeraation to say that all who knew him, believed him to be their true friend. With these manifestations, one would naturally expect that one of his prominent characteristics would be that of unselfishness. The better I became acquainted with him, the more I was impressed with that fact. While as a husband he had an especial love for his wife, and as a father, for his boy, no person had reason to feel that he was being defrauded in consequence thereof. While his primary thought in life appeared to be to live for the good of others, he was very appreciative of kind words, and deeds. No doubt many of us are now sorry that we did not more frequently cheer him in this manner. While I recognized, and treated him as my pastor, he always treated me with all the respect and deference that a father could wish to be shown by a son. In common with many others, I wish to offer this loving tribute to the memory of our pastor, whom to know, was to love.

Windsor Park.—With the coming of Pastor Kemper the church has taken on new life and activity. The old church building has been removed to a new location and a new basement placed underneath, with new roof, floor, and entrance hall, and a new heating plant. The church hopes to enjoy the Christmas season in its new home.

Second Church.—The pastorate of Dr. Donald D. MacLaurin extended into a third year Oct. 15. The two years have been years of happy service. Good feeling and good will have characterized them throughout. While the field of the church has its problems—at most fields have—there has been a steady and helpful growth; 289 persons have been added to the church, the larger part of them through baptism. Work is being carried on in both church buildings, and all by the people of the church. The young men are doing the work in the old building of the Second Church. The people of the church are widely scattered, practically all over the city. To care for these a shepherding plan is being worked. The leaders and their wives were entertained by the pastor and family on Nov. 2 at his home. A dinner is being prepared for, on Dec. 2, for the 140 or more workers in this service. The Sunday evening services are more large attended than at any time since the pastorate began, many strangers being present in them. Two of the large medical colleges in the immediate vicinity of the church have asked the pastor to be their chaplain. In that capacity he participated in their opening services, and many of the students are now found in both the morning and evening services.

North Shore.—Five new members were received during the month, three of them by baptism. During November the following services were held: November 7, Officers' night; November 14, Parents and teachers' night; November 21, Sunday-school night; November 28, Harvest Home night.

Chicago Heights.—Since the coming of our present pastor, Rev. S. P. Mahoney, things have taken quite a change. Our prayer-meetings are spiritual and well attended. Our Sunday-school,

and B. Y. P. U., are both flourishing. Conversions are frequently noted. Our pastor has been giving a series of addresses on the prophecies concerning the Jews. On Oct. 31, the pastor's niece, a Roman Catholic, who only recently crossed the ocean, accepted Christ. There are a number to be baptized and several to come in by letter. We have raised over our apportionment for state missions. Our anniversary took place Nov. 7. Rev. R. B. Marshall, of Kankakee, preached morning and afternoon. Dr. E. P. Brand, state superintendent of missions, preached in the evening. Instead of getting up an anniversary supper our ladies have decided to give $2 each, and to call upon the men to do likewise. Dr. M. P. Boynton, of Lexington Ave. Church, gave his lecture on "Human Grasshoppers" on Nov. 11.

Lexington Ave.—At the annual meeting the clerk reported the membership received as follows: By regular letters, 39; by baptism, 11; on experience, 7; by restoration, 5; total, 62. Our losses were: By regular letter, 48; by certificate of dismission, 7; by certificate of Christian standing, 2; by erasure, 5; by death, 6; total, 68. The treasurer reported receipts as follows: Weekly subscriptions, $4,218.34; plate collection, $471.73; Sunday-school, $476.17; rent, 65.25; loan, $500; special gifts, 953.11; total benevolences, $1,795.38. Liabilities unprovided for, $420.

Galilee—Pastor Henshaw held a series of meetings during Novmber, assisted by Evangelist Emil Iverson whose services have been eminently satisfactory. A number have been baptized and others will follow later.

Grace—Pastor Snashall, assisted by neighboring pastors, has been conducting a series of revival meetings with gratifying success.

Ravenswood—The North Branch Gospel Mission, organized about ten years ago, has so prospered that a larger building was necessary. The new building and lot will cost about $1,700, and was dedicated on November 14, Pastor Stiles preaching the special sermon.

Washington Park Church—Pastor R. L. Kelley with his people, on November 15, began a two weeks' series of special union evangelistic meetings. The first week's meeting will be held in this church, the second week with the Crerar Memorial Presbyterian and Dr. John A. Earl will be preacher each evening. Pastor Kelley is preaching a Sunday morning series of sermons upon "Developed Powers of the Soul." Within two weeks the church has added three members and received three persons for baptism. Of this number five are men. A teacher training and mission study class was organized in September, with the pastor, Rev. Robert Lincoln Kelley, as teacher. The present enrollment is twenty-five members.

Clyde—Rev. W. J. Eyles, who has accepted the call of the church, preached his first sermon as pastor October 24. Mr. Eyles took his college course at Colgate. He became pastor of the church at Niles, Mich., and continued to serve there during part of the time of his divinity course at the University of Chicago. After completing his course at Chicago Mr. Eyles became pastor of the church at Savanna, Ill., where he conducted a successful work for six years. From Savanna he removes to Clyde. Miss Erminie Eyles, his sister, a graduate of the Training School, who after working for some three years as missionary in Salt Lake City and in Houston, Texas, joined her brother in Savanna and has been a most efficient helper, will assist him in his new field of labor at Clyde.

Millard Ave. Church—October 31 was harvest home day at this church. A bountiful offering of fruits, vegetables, groceries and provisions of various kinds was arranged in front of the platform, manifesting that many hearts are interested in the Home for Missionaries' Children, and the child-saving work of the Central Orphanage. There was an interesting address by Mrs. A. W. Runyan, district secretary of the orphanage. The offering to the orphanage in goods and cash was estimated at $75.

Roseland—November 7 was a great day for the Roseland Church. The pastor, Rev. C. Frank Vreeland, preached in the morning, the morning service being followed by the celebration of the Lord's supper when the hand of fellowship was given to Rev. J. W. Rees, wife and daughter, who has purchased a home in Roseland since resigning his pastorate at Harvey. In the afternoon the special dedication service was held. An abundance of special music was rendered at each service. Pastor Hopkins, of West Pullman, read the scripture, Rev. J. W. Rees offered the opening prayer, and Dr. D. D. MacLaurin, of the Second Church, delivered a wonderful sermon on "Love." It melted the hearts of the audience. It will never be forgotten. Then Pastor Chalmers, with his usual grace and with pleasantries which amused, proceeded to raise the remainder needed to pay off all floating indebtedness. The church in raising the former edifice, putting in concrete foundation, and a brick basement, and practically rebuilding the former house of worship expended $6,500, and there remained to raise $1,200. In a few minutes there was given in cash and notes $1,325. Rev. F. L. Anderson, the superintendent of the Executive Council, offered the dedicatory prayer, after which Dr. Shailer Mathews, dean of the Divinity School, and president of the council, delivered a short address on the relation of the church to the Executive Council, which was also much appreciated. At the evening service two persons were baptized. Large audiences were present at each service, and all felt jubilant over the crowning success of the church in raising the requisite amount of money to clear off everything, and at the present there is a bright outlook for the future work of the church.

Ogden Park.—Pastor Dewey preached the Thanksgiving union service of nine churches of West Englewood. Eight new members have been received during the month, most of them by baptism. On Nov. 14, A. R. E. Wyant, M. D., gave his address on "The Sovereign Cure for Worry," and on the evening of Dec. 5, at 7:30 P. M., will give his Illustrated Lecture on "The Story of Pilgrim's Progress," under the auspices of the Young People's Union. Mr. W. L. Pringle,

President of the Union, says concerning the Pilgrim Progress topics and lecture:

"This series has been very instructive and Dr. Wyant's lecture will prove to be more than a fitting climax to these studies. It was the writer's pleasure to hear this lecture during the past month, and Dr. Wyant handles the subject in a remarkable way. He opens the discourse by giving a vivid description of Bunyan's prison life and then shows very clearly Christian's travels in his journey to the Celestial City. This lecture should be especially helpful to all of us because the speaker so very forcibly brings out the points in Christian's life that bear directly on our daily Christian living."

La Salle Ave.—The recent celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the church, which continued through a week, was worthy of the occasion. It began with a Sunday sermon by Pastor Montague on "The Meaning of the Church in Terms of Life," and ended with another sermon on "A Look into the Future." The historic meeting came on Tuesday with addresses by Dr. de Blois, Rev. T. Clafford and Rev. Robert Stocke. The address of Dr. de Blois was of unusual interest. But the unique feature of the meeting lay in the fact that the First Church planted the North Star mission and church and that the German and Swedish churches had been connected with the growth of the LaSalle Ave. Church.

Wednesday evening, after listening to an inspiring address by Dean Shailer Mathews on the abiding importance and necessity of church life and work, there was a generous response to the roll call of members. On Thursday evening, there was a reunion of former members and friends. After brief reports from the departments a splendid address was given by Rev. F. L. Anderson. A number of former members responded during the evening, all of them expressing a deep interest in the church. Sunday, Oct. 10, was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the church and was observed as rally day in all departments. A goodly array of former superintendents was on the platform in the Sunday-school and special music was furnished by a girls' chorus.

At the morning service a special musical program was rendered. In the afternoon Miss Susan Poxan and Mrs. Wickstrom, M. D., spoke to the women and at the same time Mr. O. B. McGlasson spoke to men on "Men of the Church and Commercial Life" and Dr. Wickstrom spoke on "Men and Morals."

The charter members of the church are: Mrs. Jessie P. Mullin, Mrs. H. A. Mobery, Mrs. J. E. Bosler, and Mr. John Gilhuly. Prof. S. S. Sherman and Mrs. A. B. Rounsville are past ninety years of age. There were four charter members present Sunday morning. These are still members of the church.

Rogers Park.—Pastor Hobbs closed his work as pastor on October 31, to become the financial secretary of the Baptist Hospital, baptizing three at the close of his ministry. The B. Y. P. U. presented him and his wife with a silver tea service, and on Nov. 2 a company of the church friends surprised the pastor at his home, and in behalf of these friends, Rev. Chas. Braithwaite, a former pastor, presented him with a beautiful gold watch.

Garfield Park.—Dr. Manning says the congregations and the prayer meetings are increasing in attendance under his ministry. He baptized several recently.

Austin.—The church made a splendid advance in its beneficence last week. The several apportionments amounted to $2,765, including those for home and foreign missions, state missions, Publication Society and the Chicago Executive Council. Dr. J. B. Thomas, the pastor, presented the matter last Sunday and in twenty-eight minutes the church pledged $3,487. No wonder the members are happy and grateful. The pledges will be paid in five monthly installments beginning with November. The amount promised includes $800 for the enlarged budget for city missions as asked by the Executive Council.

Belden Ave.—The missionary committee of the church gave an interesting and instructive illustrated lecture recently at the Wednesday evening prayer meeting on "Ten Little Dimes and Their Doings," and a missionary offering was taken at the close. Pastor Earl has been preaching sermonettes to children preceding his regular discourse, and there have been from forty to fifty present at a service. On Nov. 14 the pastor commenced a series of sermons on "First Things," on such themes as "The First Home," "The First Drunkenness," etc. Four were baptized on Nov. 14.

Tabernacle.—Pastor W. A. Matthews is preaching a series of eight Sunday evening sermons through November and December upon "Bible Messages for Modern Homes."

Memorial Church.—The work is opening for the winter with excellent interest. Congregations are unusually large. The Sunday evening services are given special features and attracting good audiences. Ten new members have been received during the past month. The woman's society from its recent annual thank offering realized over $200. The Sunday-school is having a marked increase in attendance and interest. The young peoples' society is growing rapidly and its meetings are full of interest and life. The society has recently become responsible for conducting a Sunday afternoon service at the Baptist Hospital.

Bethany.—Rev. J. F. Blodgett, former pastor began on Oct. 1, the pastorate of the Rapid City Church, South Dakota, an important field in the Black Hills country. He was engaged in tent work during the summer.

Messiah.—Pastor Parsons is being assisted in a revival meeting by Evangelist E. F. Miller whose sermons and songs are doing much good.

Immanuel Church.—This church is now the largest Baptist church in the Northwest. The membership is 2,450. It has seven branches. It has a Sunday-school constituency of 2,500. It raises for all purposes nearly $40,000 each year. The gain in its membership has averaged nearly 200 per year. This is a down-town church, solving down-town problems. There are four pastors and four missionaries giving their whole time to the work.

Joliet, Eastern Ave. At the November communion service seven new members were given the right hand of church fellowship.

Joliet, First.—Succeeding Rev. J. C. Dent, the church on Oct. 27 gave a unanimous call to Rev. C. E. Peters, of Wahoo, Neb., who accepted and began his pastorate on Nov. 15.

Waukegan.—Our young people's society, which since its inception has been a Christian Endeavor Society, has recently changed its name and organization and become affiliated with the Baptist Young People's Union. Dr. Margaret Grant, a returned medical missionary from China, has been elected president. A class of thirty-five members has been formed in Sacred Literature study. Pastor McGinnis is giving his people a series of Sunday evening sermons on "Messages of Personal Experience from the People of the Past to the People of Today."

Berwyn—Five were baptized recently. Attendance at prayer-meetings have been averaging about seventy. The Woman's Society has pledged another $500 toward the building fund debt.

Auburn Park—At the November communion, Pastor Peterson gave the hand of fellowship to six new members, three uniting by baptism. Two others have since been baptized. The church building has been painted and other improvements showing prosperity are manifest. A budget of $2,500 for current expenses for the coming year has been adopted and also $210 for benevolences.

Irving Park—On November 3 the church extended a call to Rev. D. J. Blocker, and he accepted to begin his begin his pastorate on December 5, on the afternoon of which day an installation service will be held.

Hyde Park—On November 8 the Harper Chapter of the Men's Brotherhood organized the Junior Baptist Brotherhood at a banquet where it was the duty of each man present to entertain a boy, nearly fifty of whom were present. The object of the organization is "to promote personal development, self-control, fellowship, loyalty, chivalry and service among a company of chosen youth who, because of their natural and acquired advantages are under especial obligation to live worthily by serving nobly. In the life of the organization and of the members severally, expression shall be given to the ancient knightly principle of **noblesse oblige.**" Its activities are broad and varied. It is intended that musical, military, social, recreative, literary, athletic, dramatic, forensic, artistic, ecclesiastic, philanthropic and various other wholesome activities are to find expression for the development of true manhood and the service of others. The constitution contains a pledge which the boys agreed should be recited at each meeting. It is as follows: "I promise unfailing loyalty to this organization, absolute honor in whatever trust of office or information may be imposed in me, and that I will not flinch from heroic effort in endeavoring to carry out whatever assignment of unselfish service this brotherhood may commit to me."

Humboldt Park—Miss McCoy, church missionary, reports for the month 186 calls and fifty-seven additional attempted. The Industrial School shows an average attendance of over twenty on Saturday afternoons. The treasurer's annual report shows receipts as follows: On hand October 16, 1908, $33.94; loose collection, $230.27; envelope collections, $1,726.29; special collections, $595.00; Loan, $240.00; total, $2,825.50. Total benevolences, $351. Mortgage indebtedness, $3,500. Net deficit, $464.80.

Fourth—Pastor Decker has been assisting Rev. A. E. Peterson, of Auburn Park, in revival services. Mrs. R. R. Donnelley gave an account of her travels in mission lands at the Women's Missionary meeting on December 2. The clerk reported the membership at the annual meeting as follows: Gains—by letter, 18; baptism, 12; experience, 4; restoration, 37. Losses—by letter, 8; erasure, 30; death, 2. Present membership, 327. Benevolence for poor fund, $108. The treasurer reported receipts as follows: Morning collections, $225.60; evening collections, $146.32; weekly envelopes, T. Emmett Coyne, treasurer, $2,342.28; deficit pledges, $1,978.23; bank, $1,100; donations for current expenses and special objects, $802.96; total receipts, $6,595.39. Benevolence, $202.32. Evangelistic meetings, $432.12.

NORTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

At the late meeting of the Chicago Baptist Association an invitation was extended to the Northern Baptist Convention to hold its next meeting in Chicago. That invitation has been accepted by the convention, and the meeting will be held here during the month of May, 1910. The widespread interest in the convention and the large attendance make it imperative that the Baptists of Chicago should make preparations for the greatest convention of northern Baptists ever held in America. We expect that there will be at least 2,000 accredited delegates present and the number may run to 2,500 or 3,000.

The association appointed the undersigned a committee to make preparations for the convention. This committee has held several meetings and has decided that among the first steps to be taken should be the appointment of a committee of one hundred representative Baptists who shall have general oversight of the arrangements for the coming convention.

Shailer Mathews, Chairman,
Austen K. de Blois,
J. S. Dickerson,
B. A. Greene,
B. B. Grenell, Secretary.

Woman's Mission Union—The union met with the Lexington Ave. Church, November 9. The morning service was given to reports from the circles, forty responding. The afternoon session was of unusual interest. Mrs. S. E. Hurlbut, of Evanston, treasurer of the Presbyterian Board of the Interior, spoke on "Baptist Work in the Orient." Mrs. Hurlbut has lately returned from a visit to fifty mission stations in the East, and brought to her audience many valuable facts about our own work and workers. The second address of the session was upon "A Recent Trip to Porto Rico," given by Mrs. A. E. Reynolds, the newly elected field secretary of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society. Mrs. Reynolds is a most interesting speaker and presents her subject admirably. The next meeting of the Union will be held at the Evanston Church, Lake and Chicago avenues, on Tuesday, December 14. The program and transportation directions may be found in The Standard of December 11.

BAPTIST HOSPITAL NOTES.

Two Baptist leaders recently said to me, "This is the psychological moment for the Baptist Hospital." God grant that their declaration may be true.

NOW is the time for an advance movement. Forgetting blunders and mistakes, laying aside personal prejudices, praying earnestly for the divine leadership and becoming imbued with a large vision for the future, let us get together as Baptists and do our Hospital work in a manner more worthy of our Master's name.

Rev. R. W. Hobbs, New Financial Secretary, Chicago Baptist Hospital.

Such work we ought to do because it finds its sanction in the teachings of the Saviour; because the great names associated with our hospital's history indicate the worthiness of the purpose; because it is a visible testimony to the unbelieving world of the practical nature of the Master's teachings; because it is a ministry of love to aching bodies and thus in a measure to aching souls; because it furnishes in its Nurses' Department training of a helpful sort to young women who in many instances must make their own way.

This year up to November 1, despite inadequate equipment and scanty contributions from our people the hospital has done $3,549.02 worth of free work. You ought not to be unrepresented in this good work. NOW, while the impulse is upon you, send your gift at once to C. J. Ward, the treasurer, 814 Tacoma building, Chicago.

Do not cease to pray for me in my new work, that I may follow the divine leadership.

R. W. Hobbs,
Financial Secretary.

PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW

Central Baptist Orphanage, Maywood, Ill., is doing a good work in child-saving.

The splendid plant is valued at $45,000. Five years ago it was in debt for its purchase price, $9,000; but this has been reduced each year; and an appeal is now being made to raise $1,500 to clear the plant of debt. Besides thus paying for the plant it has painted the buildings, put down cement walks, paved streets, and paid the running expenses at the Home. Its only resources are the love, prayer, faith, and gifts of good people, who care for neglected and homeless children.

The child-saving work of the Orphanage has grown yearly, as its means increased. It cares for all classes of children of any religious faith. It holds a certificate from the State Board of Charities; and it co-operates with Juvenile courts and Bureaus of Charities n the saving of children. It has under its care, 1st, Neglected Children; 2nd, Surrendered Children, 3rd, Paroled Children; 4th, Boarding Children, and 5th, Family-placed Children. It has thus cared for more than 500 helpless children—many of them splendid young people; and it has a daily attendance of about forty children. They are trained in manners, domestic work, religious truth, and upright character. They attend the public school, go to church and Sunday-school, and enjoy the freedom and spirit of a home life.

We have some good boys and girls waiting for Christian homes. The homeless child is seeking a childless home. The orphanage appeals to you now for money to clear this debt of $1,500, and to save the neglected children. We owe to every child the right to have a fair start in life. For further information, Address

James P. Thoms, Supt.,
Maywood, Ill.

At the University of Chicago the members of the combined faculties of the various colleges and schools number 415, being distributed as follows: faculty of arts, literature, and science, 288; Divinity faculty, and conference, forty; law faculty, fifteen; medical faculty, seventy-two; School of Education faculty, eighty; university extension faculty, 157; university libraries, thirty-seven. A great many individuals serve on more than one faculty, so that if these were counted in each case, the number would be very largely increased. In addition to the regular faculties there are each year a number of special appointments for short periods of time.

* * *

The Evangelistic Band, which the Chicago Divinity School has organized from year to year for several years past, has proved to be a source of great blessing to the students who have been its members and to the churches which they have visited. The band for the present year is now in process of organization and will be ready for service on the last Sunday in December and for other states after the holidays. Applications for the services of this consecrated company of young men who expect no compensation for their labor may be made to C. E. Hewitt, secretary, at the University of Chicago.

THE BAPTIST EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The council is progressing. Every department of its activity is receiving careful attention and wise planning. There is a spirit of co-operation on the part of all the Baptist interests of Chicago.

The budget of $10,000, which was presented by the finance committee has been adopted and the committee authorized to apportion the various churches. The actual needs of the Council are $10,000 to meet all the obligations for the year beginning October 1, 1909. Allowance for shrinkage has been made in the various apportionments. At the last meeting of the Council the plan of presenting the budget to the churches was adopted.

Another feature of our denominational activity is the relationship of the young people of the city and the Brotherhood to the Council. These organizations are working not independently of each other but together. For instance, the Council has a strong evangelistic committee of which Rev. Judson B. Thomas, D. D., is chairman. The young people's association has a like committee and the Brotherhood has organized through its committee for evangelistic work. These three committees will work together and map out a plan and policy by which the entire denomination can work as one body.

At the meeting held Friday, November 26, in the First Baptist Church, Rev. V. Kralicek, pastor of the First Bohemian Baptist Church, spoke about the work among Bohemians. He stirred the delegates. Many said it was the most significant meeting we have had for a long time. As a result of this meeting a committee on publications for foreign speaking people was provided. The members of that committee are Rev. James M. Stifler, George E. Merrill and Professor Theodore G. Soares. This committee will take up the whole question of suitable literature for the foreign speaking peoples. The Council will devote a part of its monthly meetings for the discussion of some phase of our foreign work. So from time to time representatives of our foreign speaking peoples will appear before the Council and speak briefly about the work which is being done.

The next meeting of the Council will be held Thursday evening, December 23. The place of the meeting will be announced later.

A list of the standing committees of the Board of Directors and Council is given below:

Committees of the Board of Directors.

Legal Relations—James G. Elsdon, chairman; Julius A. Johnson, George A. Chritton, John P. Ahrens.

Finance—Shailer Mathews, chairman; H. B. Lyford, secretary; John Nuveen, A. E. Wells, E. O. Hart, C. O. Frisbie, E. S. Osgood, L. A. Trowbridge, W. E. Chalmers.

Co-operation with Other Denominations—S. C. Jennings, chairman; H. R. Baldwin, Shailer Mathews, John Nuveen, C. R. Holden, A. K. de Blois.

Spiritual Relations—S. T. Ford, chairman; Thomas J. Bolger, D. T. Denman, A. R. E. Wyant, E. R. Stouffer, John H. Byrne, C. E. Hewitt.

New Fields—A. K. de Blois, chairman, George Riddiford, W. E. Gillespie, D. C. Henshaw, Johnston Myers, H. H. Gill, Chas. L. Major.

Church Edifice—T. G. Soares, chairman; F. W. Parker, E. O. Hart, P. W. Cadman, H. B. Lyford, J. S. Dickerson, Ed. Ahlswede.

Committees of the Council.

Evangelistic—Judson B. Thomas, chairman; John A. Earl, Thomas Stephenson, W. W. Dewey, J. Grafton Parker, A. E. Peterson.

Committee on Work Among Foreign Populations—D. D. MacLaurin, chairman; R. E. Manning, M. P. Boynton, Jacob Meier, A. W. Small, E. B. Pease, W. A. Mathews.

But we must live as much as we can for human joy, dwelling on sorrow and pain only so far as the consciousness may help us in striving to remedy them.—George Eliot.

The Holiday Season is approaching and with it comes the vexing question of Christmas shopping. This is a question that involves a good deal of thought and much consideration on the part of the Sunday-school Superintendent and Teacher to secure gifts that will meet the special needs of their teachers and classes.

The vast crowds that gather in our large department stores and other places where holiday goods are sold make Christmas shopping anything but a pleasure. Much of the annoyance can be avoided by buying your presents early and by patronizing stores that have the advantage of not being crowded. Why not save yourself some of this worry and trouble by consulting specialists who can advise you as to what is on the market and what will appeal to your special needs? Our Baptist people are unusually fortunate in the location and personnel of their book store at 168 Wabash Avenue. This store, being on the third floor, does not get the great crowds that congregate in the stores on the first floor. This gives them a great commodiuus room, well lighted, finely ventilated, nicely furnished, where they can serve their patrons in ease and comfort. They have a large Rest Room where you can sit in an easy chair and look over the books as much as you please before purchasing.

In the arrangement of the place the management has left nothing undone that will add to the comfort of their customers. If you have not visited these new quarters it will pay you to give them a call for your Christmas shopping this year. If you are in doubt as to just what you want ask any of the clerks to show you the envelope series of booklets. You will be in doubt no longer. While it may not fill the bill for the exact gift you are looking for, you will assuredly want one copy for some friend. You will find the clerks in this store feel a personal interest in the business that is not to be found elsewhere, and this naturally results in the customers getting the best service possible. By patronizing our own Society you are assured of courteous treatment, good service and correct prices, three important items in the eyes of every buyer.

Space forbids us to go into detail as to what is offered the book lover. We can only call special attention to the attractive line of calendars, booklets, Christmas Cards, novelties, dainty inexpensive books, fiction and the more serious lines of literature. Nowhere else in Chicago will you find the same opportunities for shopping at your leisure in ease and comfort.

The Publication Society is one of the three great Societies that we Baptists have a right to be proud of. Every dollar of profit that is made by the Publication Society is reinvested in some line of missionary denominational work for the upbuilding of the denomination. The profits from the Chicago office alone last year were a little over $11,000.00, which went back into denominational lines of work. This was worth while and should encourage our Baptist people everywhere to place their orders through their own book store, especially in view of the fact that they get better service, more accommodations and as good prices as can be obtained anywhere in Chicago. Nowhere will you find a better trained corps of clerks or a better assorted stock to select from.

Their appeal for support is not altogether from the viewpoint of Baptist loyalty but from the viewpoint of service as well. Mr. Major, the manager, will be glad to meet you personally and advise you as to the various attractive little gift books issued especially for the holiday trade this year.

BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO.

At the October meeting of the Executive Council it was decided to hold a Rally in November, the object being to "conserve" the inspiration, enthusiasm and spiritual uplift we were all receiving at the Gipsy Smith Mission. The invitation of the Rev. C. A. Decker, of the Fourth Baptist Church, corner of Ashland and Monroe street, to hold the rally there, was accepted with thanks, and a committee appointed to secure a suitable speaker.

The Rally was held on Thursday, November 18, and about 450 of our young people gathered to hear a most helpful and inspiring address by the Rev. Dr. Thomas Trotter, of the Ashland Ave. Baptist Church of Toledo, Ohio, on "Conservation and Conquest."

Dr. Trotter said in substance that the young Christian, who had just received a first glimpse of the Savior, had felt the impulse of His life in their hearts and who desired to live for, and serve Him, must turn their backs on all their old life and associations and seek a new one with new environments and friends. They must "reconstruct," if you please, a "new life" without to meet the "new" one within.

They must seek helpful influences, read literature that would strengthen them in the new faith, and make new friends who would help them. They must come out from the old life and associations and leave them behind forever. He illustrated his point by telling of his own experience when leaving his childhood's home, for the first time, and going to the city to work, how lonesome he was for the first week or two, but how at the end of three months he could not have been coaxed back to his old home at any price. He had found new friends and formed new associations. So it is with the young Christian. They may long for the old life for the first week or two, but if they will resolutely face about and leave the old associations entirely behind and force themselves into new and helpful ones, the peace and joy of the new will very soon make them forget the old.

It was a very inspiring and helpful address and thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by our young people.

The Rally opened with a song service led by Mr. Marx of Millard Ave., who had a very large delegation from that church. Rev. H. W. Waldo of Millard Ave. led in prayer. "Calvary's Cross," the song we all learned to love at the Gipsy Smith Mission, was played as a trombone solo and everyone joined in singing the chorus.

The music by the Laurian Male Quartette and Mr. Warner's trombone solo, "Face to Face," were greatly enjoyed.

State President Boyer was introduced and in a few choice sentences told of his hopes for a great work throughout the state this year. We were exceedingly glad to have the new state president with us, on this, his first appearance since his election, and we desire him to know that the Chicago Association is "with" him for a "larger work for young people."

City President Ruthven explained the city work. He told of the loss of the old constitution, and how Mr. Van Keuren, who was elected general secretary at the last election, and who has since left Chicago, spent many days trying to find it, succeeding, partially, in doing so; how the new one which the Executive Council has drawn up will be ready before a great while, and will be distributed to the local societies. He told of some of the provisions of the new one. He said: "The new constitution provides for thirteen departments, a number of which, such as organization, arrangements, reception, etc., explain themselves, but in some of these departments we are going to introduce new ideas.

In the juvenile department, of which Robert Hamilton is the chairman, plans are being matured to form a Boys' Brotherhood, for boys from twelve to fifteen years old and a younger young men's Brotherhood from sixteen to nineteen. A series of degrees through which the members will pass are obtained by receiving "credits" for work done in the "departments of the Brotherhood," which are "manual, mental, missions, moral and muscular." Meetings of these "departments" will be held in different sections of the city to stimulate interest in the work. The co-operation of all young people's societies is asked for. We want our young people to be "winners for Christ." Jesus came to "seek and save." His spirit in still working in the same way.

In our missionary department, Mr. Arnold is planning great things, and hopes in the near future to hold a "monster mission" rally to help our city missions, and all other Baptist mission work. Dr. Anderson, superintendent of the Executive Council, is helping and it will be a grand rally. Don't fail to be there. Announcements later.

In the educational department Mr. H. W. Ralph has plans for "educating" our young people regarding Baptist doctrine and history and enterprises, such as our hospital, orphanage and old people's home; also in regard to Baptist literature—the Publishing Society, Service, Standard, the Record and "Missions," our new missionary magazine—in addition to the regular reading courses.

In regard to the "sustaining membership" feature of the constitution, it will, if supported, place our finances on a solid basis whereby the young people may be a very practical help to city missions and other Baptist work. The cards

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which are being sent to all societies explain where the funds will go. We want our young people to help us not only in their prayers, but with their pocket books for a "larger work for young people."

The rally closed with the benediction by Rev. D. C. Henshaw of Galilee.

The executive committee met at 6 p. m. and partook of a bounteous repast prepared by the ladies of the Fourth Church, to whom they are very grateful, and transacted considerable business before the rally; also passed a resolution of sympathy and condolence with Mrs. Henry Proctor and family in their recent bereavement.

We desire to thank the pastors who were at the rally for their presence and encouragement. We were glad to have them and hope to see them in increasing numbers, at future rallies. Owing to lack of time the "roll call" was omitted, much to the regret of many, but we noticed visitors from Waukegan and north and Windsor Park and West Pullman on the south.

The president wrote personal letters of invitation to ten Swedish, two Bohemian and one Lettish society, and President Grosser of the German district invited his eight societies to the rally. We hope many of these young people were there. We want them with us in all our city rallies and, if possible, we desire to aid them in their work.

We desire to thank the Fourth Church, Mr. Kennett, the organist, the quartette, Mr. Warner, and many others who assisted us in various ways.

Van A. Maxson.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES.

South District.

Our Thanksgiving sunrise prayer-meeting was held at Bethel Baptist Church Seventy-second and Champlain streets, at 7:15 a. m., Thursday, November 25. About 150 of our young people were present and it was one of the most inspiring and helpful services in recent years.

A novel feature of the program was the roll call of the different societies, some answering with a word of scripture, others by a song. The sermon was preached by the Rev. F. L. Anderson, superintendent of the Chicago Executive Council, and it was greatly enjoyed by all. Rev. Dunk of Bethlehem Baptist Church of Roseland deserves special mention for the service he rendered in leading the song service.

Aftr the sermon followed a lively service of testimony, praise and thanksgiving. The closing prayer was offered by Rev. F. O. Erb of Parkside Baptist Church.

We wish to thank the Bethel society for their hospitality and the refreshments which were served at the close.

North District.

Belden Ave. Church presented a most animated appearance on Thursday, November 25, when about 350 young people met there for our Thanksgiving sunrise prayer meeting at 7 a. m.

Rev. J. C. Dent of Pilgrim Temple preached the annual sermon, inspiring and enthusing all present. The meeting opened with a song service led by Mr. Bishop of Belden Ave. Rev. John A. Earl led in prayer. District President Sigwart welcomed all present and spoke of the district work. City President Ruthven told of the opportunities for Christian service in young people's work. Rev. B. F. Martin of Humboldt Park led the devotional services which were very helpful. A number of testimonies of praise and thanksgiving followed.

The roll call developed a close race between Pilgrim Temple and Humboldt Park for the honor of the largest attendance, Pilgrim Temple having sixty-two and Humboldt Park fifty-nine. Albany Park and Evanston also had delegates who were welcomed.

BAPTIST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE.

On November 1 the conference met in Room 613, Masonic Temple, and listened to Dr. H. C. Mabie, who occupied the hour in a strong address upon "The Missionary Competency of Baptists."

On November 8, Prof. C. J. Galpin, of the First Church, Madison, Wis., spoke upon the national aspect of religious nurture at our state universities as it affects the denomination.

On November 15, the conference was notified at its opening of the sudden death of Rev. Henry Proctor, pastor of the Western Ave. Church, and secretary of the conference.

On November 22, Herr Buchler gave an admirable address upon "Music."

On November 29, Rev. J. M. Stifler, of Evanston, gave an incisive address on "Anaemic Preaching, Its Cause and Cure."

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A TURBINE TABERNACLE.

By Rev. Arthur H. Armstrong.

A $7,000,000 church, running at the rate of thirty miles an hour with its services conducted by a layman! Isn't that "going some" ecclesiastically? The place was the North Atlantic, the time a few Sundays ago and the man the purser of the "Mauretania," on one of her record trips westward.

The Celtic and the Mauretania were to sail together in the morning and we found Queenstown full. The hotel was full. We got the last cot in the further end of the ball room. There were 10,000 Irish men and women in the street, looking for the railway station, and they were too full to find it. They were "Corkers," the landlady said left over from the Regatta Day crowd; "like your Fourth of July" (save the mark!). The soberer ones had got away on the earlier trains. We went to bed leaving the worn out guards of the shuttle excursion trains to Cork still struggling to get that bestial, spewing crowd on at Queenstown and off at Cork. Cattle punching in Texas would be kindergarten work in comparison. Thus the dragon's jaws drip with the blood of the woman's seed.

In the gray of the clouded dawn we crowded on the tender. A long, high wheeled locomotive with a train of mail cars slowed up on the siding next the tender. A line of ragged misfit longshoremen began filing across the dock and up the gang plank, each bearing a brown mail sack with the London mail, like a colony of black ants laying in winter wheat. For an hour and a half the line hustled mail without a halt. They piled up a mountain amidships and another aft. The yellow labels were a postoffice directory of three continents. Every state in the Union, Guatemala, Mexico, the West Indies, Canada, Alaska, Japan, China, Australia and the South Sea Islands were hearing from somebody. What a world of business, of happiness and of sorrow must be in those mysterious precious bundles. What romances and tragedies!

In the outer harbor a smother of smoke revealed our ship impatiently awaiting our arrival to be off. She loomed up with her long black hull like a promontory, as we rounded the point. Our fat tender dwindled as we came alongside, to a row boat. The Mauretania's quadruple stacks suggested the cupolas of the blast furnaces in Cleveland or Pittsburg. All round her was a fleet of enterprising Irish merchants in longboats with rowers to keep them in position. Men balanced themselves amidships and hurled coils like clothes lines, in a sort of "Anthony over" to prospective customers on the liner's decks a hundred feet above. To the lowered ends in baskets, blackthorn sticks, bog oak pipes, irish shawls and linens were fastened. Thus the insatiable tourist insanity to buy had a last outlet.

On board, a hot sea bath obliterated the grime of a dusty market day journey in the west counties. Ugh! how dirty Ireland is. Then out to see our ship. She is 790 feet long, 88 feet wide and 150 feet from keel to stack tips. The first cabin promenade around her boat deck is five laps to the mile. Her four stacks, tandem, measure 22 feet in diameter. Her boat deck is like a sunny valley bounded by the ridge of the deck house on one side and a range of canvas covered life boats on the other.

Her passenger list numbers little short of 3000 souls in the three cabins and her crew 700 more. She has a library with an electric fire place, a drawing room with marble pilasters, passenger elevators that run between five decks and a roof garden, with hanging baskets and live palms.

Every evening the men gather after dinner

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in the smoke room and make up the "pool" on the next day's run. I heard a New York millionaire buy all the numbers above 655 while the whistle was already blowing signals for a thickening fog which cut the run to 587. He paid thirty-six pounds. I had in my pocket a letter which told me of a widow at home struggling to support herself and her daughter, who could have lived a year on that sum.

Every morning a group of us lined up on the boat deck for a game of deck golf, a cross between crokinole and shuffle board. The holes are chalk rings distributed among boat locks and stanchion brackets, hiding behind deck house angles and hugging-gutters. The balls are big wooden checkers driven by shovel-like wooden cues. An Edinburgh physician, a Manchester engineer, a New Jersey manufacturer, an Australian carriage builder, a Columbia sophomore, a London actor and a Chicago clergyman met daily after breakfast and fought some doughty battles. The gutter was the worst hazard. A well placed opponent can punch you back "in" indefinitely. If you do succeed in clawing your checker out of the trough and it lands on edge it will roll the length of the deck careening drunkenly with the ship's motion, amid the jeers of the audience, and tumble back in at last. if you lift too hard it goes overboard. Mine was "in" one morning for all of thirty strokes.

Sunday morning dawned clear as crystal. The sky was an inverted blue bowl without a fleck of cloud. The sea was a gray green color sparkling and heaving. There was not so much as a speck in sight round the circle of the horizon. We might have been the only inhabitants of the universe, sailing on an infinite ocean in limitless space.

At ten-thirty the bugle blew the church call. A bulletin called the worshipers to the "lounge," the ships' parlor. The orchestra led in the grand English hymns. The purser in uniform and gold braid read the service. There was nothing perfunctory about it. He was a dignified, stately Englishman, sincere in every intonation. For six weeks I had been wandering in the polyglot atmosphere of the continent. I had attended Catholic mass in Germany, French services in Switzerland, the Reformed church in Holland, Latin mass in Italy and Russian vespers in Paris. But man makes love and worships his God only in his mother tongue. To hear the words of the liturgy in the English tongue brought a rush of emotion that was deep and surprising. When the words of intercession were reached for "Our sovereign King Edward and for his excellency the president of the United States," the moisture filled the eyes of many men of both nations present, brought very near together by the occasion.

Great Britain and the United States are kindred nations with one language, one genius, a common ancestry and a common destiny. What affects one influences both. The danger of either is the peril of the other. But high above other common interests is that of our common faith. England the mother and the United States the daughter must fight together the battles of municipal purity, temperance, and democracy which, in the last analysis, are the battles of Christian civilization.

We took our pilot at Sandy Hook, steamed majestically through the Narrows and up to our dock where it took six sea tugs, the ship's machinery and three lines made fast to spiles on shore and hauled by steam winches on board, to swing the Mauretania's 32,000 tons of bulk into her berth. We went ashore just five days to an hour from the going aboard. Thus science applied to ship building and supported by commerce is doing its providential part to make nations one. For I read in the prophecy of St. John the beloved, the words, "And there shall be no more sea."

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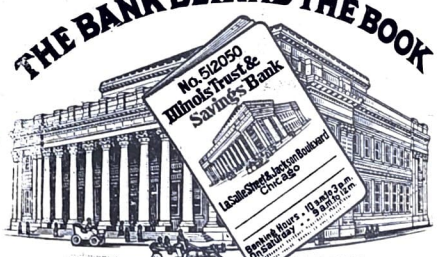

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LOVE AS A METHOD OF WORK.

There is nothing vague or indefinite about love. It may be, and it ought to be, as prominently and systematically a part of our daily life as the habit of eating or of exercising, or any other habit that is the result of deliberate intention. A leader of religious work of international importance recognizes this when he prays "for an ever-growing sense of the supremacy of love as a method of work." His particular mission is to formulate practical and well-considered plans for the increase of Bible study and Christian service; yet he realizes that the most perfectly organized plans in the world will be empty of result unless love is the dominating method. We too often think of love as being so much a matter of spirit that it is beyond the reach of method. Yet he who resolutely and persistently puts the interests of others ahead of his own finds that he can attain to the spirit of love through this method. And there is no other way.—S. S. Times.

"NO END TO THE BEGGING."

Certainly not! that is, if you call it "begging" when the church asks of us what we owe her and her noble cause of doing good. Even at best we never can pay her as much as we owe her, or do for her as much as Christ has done for us. Call it "begging" if you will, but shame be to those who do so. It is in the same sense begging that, for instance, the grocer, the tailor, the coal man might perchance, with temerity, ask you to pay your bill.

There is much more "quid pro quo" in the church account than in any other of your accounts, and yet it is only your voluntary offerings that are asked; your offerings that are given cheerfully and not "grudgingly or of necessity." The complaint "always begging" never comes seriously (though it may in jest) from those vitally and generously interested in Christ's cause.

"Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down and shaken together, and running over shall men give into your bosom. for with that measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."—St. Luke 6:38.

When will we learn that one of the fundamentals of a real vital Christian faith is generosity?—Exchange.

The old man and the young man, the thinker, the artist, the worker, the merchant, the doctor and the lawyer—out of each comes up to the surface a profounder individuality when they all begin to live to God.—Phillips Brooks.

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A SUGGESTION FOR CHRISTMAS MERRY-MAKERS.

Would you know a jolly way to spend Christmas eve?

The Inglenook suggests the following:

Start a Yule Cart on its rounds, and I warrant you it will become an annual institution in your neighborhood.

Fifteen or twenty young people should be engaged in the scheme and work actively together. Begin to talk it up the first part of December so as to interest as many as possible.

The idea is to collect a number of things to distribute among those who else would have little if any Christmas. In order to give appropriately, let each member of the Yule Cart group look up one or two of the families they intend to favor and learn from them what their practical needs are. If there are any sick, make a note of it; if any children, jot down their ages. If you are in the city the charity organizations can give you a list.

Make a list of the needy and let each member of the party send a copy to friends from whom they expect to solicit gifts, for instance:

Mrs. Brown (invalid), jelly, hot-water bag, cushion, wrapper.

The Mills baby, a few weeks old, and the girl, six, and boy, four years, need clothes.

Old Mrs. Ward, a bed comforter and a shawl; also some yarn for knitting stockings.

Mr. Price, an overcoat, medium size, a knife and a purse.

Miss Wilder, books, magazines and a lamp.

Johnny Baker (cripple), toys and books.

Henry Wolker, umbrella and warm gloves.

Any one receiving such a list would immediately find something they could send, and you could request them to mark their offerings with the name of the person for whom they are intended.

Have the cart filled with hay or straw and cushions, and let each member bring a lantern, glass-encased. As you ride from house to house, collecting, sing Christmas carols.

Mr. Howland hears you and is well down the front steps, as you drive up, with his arms full of packages.

"Merry Christmas to you!" he calls. "I was glad to know of some one who needed my overcoat, for I had just bought a new one, and I think Price is just about my size."

So it goes around the neighborhood, the Yule Cart on its merry rounds. When all is gathered in, then comes the distributing, which will be even more fun, if done in the spirit of neighborliness and good fellowship. Having the gifts marked with individual names will go far to insure their gracious acceptance as being not a mere perfunctory "hand-out," but a personal gift from a friend who cares.—Children's Charities.

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What Is Mexico?

Americans commonly characterize Mexico as "Our Sister Republic." Most of us picture her vaguely as a republic in reality much like our own, inhabited by people a little different in temperament, a little poorer and a little less advanced, but still enjoying the protection of republican laws—a free people in the sense that we are free. Others of us, who have seen the country through a car window, or speculated a little in Mexican mines or Mexican plantations, paint that country beyond the Rio Grande as a benevolent paternalism in which a great and good man orders all things well for his foolish but adoring people. I found Mexico to be neither of these two things. The real Mexico I found to be a country with a written constitution and written laws as fair and democratic as our own, but with neither constitution nor laws in operation. Mexico is a country without political freedom, without freedom of speech, without a free press, without a free ballot, without a jury system, without political parties, without any of our cherished guarantees of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It is a land where there has been no contest for the office of president for more than a generation, where the executive rules all things by means of a standing army, where political offices are sold for a fixed price, where the public school system in vast country districts is abolished because a governor needs the money. I found Mexico to be a land where the people are poor because they have no rights, where peonage is the rule for the great mass and where actual chattel slavery obtains for hundreds of thousands. Finally, I found that the people do not idolize their president, that the tide of opposition, dammed and held back as it has been by army and secret police, is rising to a height where it must shortly overflow the dam. Mexicans of all classes and affiliations agree that their country is hurrying towards a general revolution in favor of democracy: . . not a revolution in the time of Diaz, for Diaz is old and is expected soon to pass, then a revolution after Diaz.—John K. Turner in American Magazine.

HOPE.

Old hope is the fellow to tie to, dear.
A fine old fellow of song and cheer:
The lastingest fellow to cling to, love:
When everything else in the heavens above
And the earth beneath goes wrong, goes wrong.
He comes with a rose on his lips of song.
—Baltimore Sun.

VISION.

By Arthur Wallace Peach.

I would not see far in the future years,
Nor pierce the veil that covers human life,
Nor search in shadowed hearts for secret tears,
Nor seek the meaning of the cosmic strife;
But this the vision is worth most to me:
To see in life the hearts that I may cheer,
To find some balm for minds in misery,
To catch the sunbeams when the day is drear,
To know the truth when in all evils set,
To see the human shine with the divine,
To know how sweet it is wrongs to forget,—
This is the vision that I would have mine.
West Newton, Mass.

—Sunday-school Times.

WEIGHING IT FOR YOURSELF.

No opinion on any subject of common knowledge is worth much to a man until he has weighed that opinion for himself. Yet most of us take our opinions from others without any weighing. A recent remark of one of the leading Old Testament scholars of this country is significant in this connection. He had expressed a most revealing opinion of a certain unworthy method of Bible study and of one of its chief advocates. When his permission was asked to use his own name in quoting what he had said, he answered: "I have no objection, in any case where quoting it from me would add weight to the opinion expressed. I think, however, that the strength of the opinion lies in the opinion itself. If a name is mentioned with a statement, what will count will commonly be the name. If the statement is given without the name, it is possible that a reader will weigh the statement for himself." The bigger the name, the more insistent we need to be with ourselves to apply the weighing test.—Sunday-school Times.

I have discovered more than one man of eminence in my time whose career dated from the interest some grown-up took in his leisure.—"The Interpreter," in American Magazine.

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THE CHILD CONFERENCE FOR RESEARCH AND WELFARE.

The Child Conference at Clark University last July was effective because it was constructive. It resulted in the establishment of what exists nowhere else in the world—a means of unifying the work done for the welfare of children by existing organizations—the Child Conference for Research and Welfare. The temporary offices are at 6 King street, Worcester, Massachusetts, and the general secretary is Henry S. Curtis, late secretary of the Playground Association of America. Dr. Curtis outlines the aims of the Conference as follows: "It is founded on the belief that bringing together the specialists in child study and the workers from the different movements for the welfare of children will be sure to result in more unified, harmonious, and effective action." It is planned to publish authoritative resumes of the work of all movements relating to children in all lands, to make available to the public the special researches and the results of scientific investigations made in child welfare each year, and possibly to establish a lengthened Conference or summer school of four or five weeks' duration "Which should offer the best sort of training for practical workers and inspiration to every one." The amount of money needed for the Conference is small in comparison with its immense usefulness to the well-being of the children of America and the ultimate economy coming to every family in spreading a knowledge of wise methods of training children and preventing disease, vice, and crime among them. Some lover of children ought to endow this work. The chief element hampering the devoted workers with children has been duplication of effort and lack of knowledge of what others have done and learned, often by costly experimentation. If adequate funds are at hand, the Child Conference should be very helpful as a publicity agent and a clearing-house for information relating to children. Another definite result of the July Conference was the announcement of the opening of the new Bureau of Childhood at Clark University. Three departments have now been opened, and others will be added as the work progresses. The Library Department is designed to record and classify all observations obtainable from other departments. An idea of its scope is gained from realizing that there are twenty-six periodicals published to-day—exclusive of educational journals— devoted to the study of childhood in different lands. In 1903-5 753 school bills were passed by different State Legislatures of the Union. The Library Department should become of notable usefulness to educational and legislative committees. Another department is that of Child Language, which is designed to make special investigations into the simplest and best methods of teaching English and other languages—because all methods may be improved by study of the careful records of infant vocabularies and the speech errors of children The department which is of especial interest is that having in hand the tests of subnormal or defective children, for it is probable that many children classed today as normal are in reality subnormal. Indeed, we have no adequate means of knowing definitely, at the present time, whether a given child is normal or subnormal—a statement which is so true that it may not be accepted, and may even be resented, by proud and sensitive parents. These means can be provided only by exact study. No up-to-date business in the United States to-day ignores, without serious money loss, the results of scientific study which bear upon it. Many interests employ high-salaried scientific experts to make researches for them, finding large reimbursement in greatly increased profits. We are likewise beginning to recognize the need of scientific study of childhood, and soon the time will come when Congress, by means of suitable appropriations through the Department of the Interior, will authorize the Bureau of Education to carry on what the Commissioner so earnestly wishes, but for which funds are not available, namely, investigation and research with children along lines parallel with what the Department of Agriculture has been doing for so many years with plants and animals to the notable economic advantage of the whole country.—Outlook.

WHEN CHRISTMAS COMES.

When Christmas comes
We some way feel the whole world kin.
Then friendship's fires are kindled in
Cold hearts, whose doors have long been shut
"Come in!" rings out from hall to hut.
"Come in, come in, this Christmas day—
Put all old difference away,
Join hands and hearts as all men should,
In universal brotherhood,
When Christmas comes."

—Eben E. Rexford